

FEBRUARY 23, 1956

AIRTEL

SAC, BIRMINGHAM

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CITIZENS COUNCILS OF ALABAMA, IS-X. According to press releases [redacted]

[redacted] on 2-17-56 in opposition to [redacted] attendance at the University of Alabama. A meeting of the council was scheduled to have been held on 2-11-56.

You are instructed to furnish the Bureau immediately the name of this organization, the name of its officials and its activities in connection with the [redacted] affair. A discreet inquiry should be initiated in the event you have not already done so which should be conducted in accordance with instructions in SAC Letter 55-66. A report suitable for dissemination should be submitted within two weeks after receipt of this communication by your office under the caption of the name of the organization.

HOOVER

Eufile 105-33955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

RECORDED - 19

13 FEB 27 1956

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CFW:bas (4)

MAILED 11  
FEB 23 1956  
COMM - FBI

FYB  
WCT  
CFW  
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to White Citizens Council of  
West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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## The Citizen Council Starts Here

Good judgment lay behind the decision of leaders in the Citizens Council movement here in making their first session open to the public, to newspapermen, and to photographers.

Every one knows the movement is in support of continuance of segregation. But no one knows just what courses the councils will follow, for the new units seem to be in the planning stage, rather than extensions of prior movements of this kind.

Any organization appealing to a large segment of the public for support starts on a far firmer foundation if it is unafraid to look the world in the face, and is unashamed to have any one who is interested to watch its deliberations.

Encouragement of female membership also is a good sign. Any organization is better with women members than without them.

Insofar as the councils themselves are concerned, we shall withhold judgment pending completion of organization and initiation of activity.

If the councils develop as organizations following legal procedures and ethical practices—all designed to support the Southern attitude for continuance of segregation — they will be one thing. If, on the other hand, they develop into a haven for intemperates and reckless extremists who will stop at nothing, in-

cluding murder and other acts far outside of the law, they will be another.

The leaders of the council movement certainly have a grave responsibility to keep it decent, law-abiding and American. We sincerely hope the responsible, serious-minded people will be able to control this movement, which undoubtedly will become far bigger and far stronger in our state.

12739

*McGowan*

*rp 3-1*

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
February 22, 1956  
Editorial  
BUFORD BOONE - PUBLISHER

©  
CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
TUSCALOOSA,  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
IS - X.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

105-46001-A

~~105-46001-A~~  
NOT RECORDED  
133 MAR 13 1956

71 MAR 14 1956

*Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Director, FBI

DATE: March 6, 1956

SAC, Birmingham (105-299 )

12737

SUBJECT: CITIZENS COUNCIL OF TUSCALOOSA  
IS-X

§ 2-1

*Ally*  
This is to advise that a Citizens Council has been organized, captioned as above, and a report will be submitted in accordance with Bureau instructions.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

2 - Bureau  
1 - BH  
CBS-fmb  
(3)

*0-1 to Pres.  
Pres. signed.  
5-7-56  
CFW/lms*

RECORDED - 34

SE 43

EX-121

105-46001-1X

~~105-45000~~

MAR 8 1956

*[Signature]*

*1-2*  
MAR 21 1956

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office BIRMINGHAM	Office of Origin BIRMINGHAM	Date 3/16/56	Investigative Period 2/17, 24, 25, 27; 3/1, 6, 7, 13/56
TITLE OF CASE WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA		Report made by SA [redacted]	Typed By rvm
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - X  ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw	

Synopsis:

WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA organized at Tuscaloosa, Ala. with first public meeting held on 2/17/56 [redacted]

[redacted] Permanent officers and Executive Committee to be elected 3/16/56 at meeting to be held in Tuscaloosa County High School, Northport, Ala. Copy of Constitution of Council obtained and set forth, with purpose of organization shown as upholding and promoting continuance of separation of races and to disseminate truth concerning insidious and un-American organizations. No information Council was active in expulsion of [redacted]

DETAILS: At Tuscaloosa, Alabama

In February 16, 1956, issue of the TUSCALOOSA NEWS, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, a news item appeared reporting the organization of a WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL at Tuscaloosa, with the first

Approved [Signature]	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: ⑤ Bureau (105-46001-33955) 1 G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. 1 ONI, 6th Naval Dist., Charleston, S. C. 1 OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 2 Birmingham (105-299)		105-46001-2 10 MAR 19 1956	RECORDED - 98 INDEXED - 98 EX-126

66 APR 5 1956



BH 105-299

open meeting of the group to be held February 17, 1956, in the courtroom of the Tuscaloosa County Courthouse. The news item reported one of the organizers as stating, "It is not a Ku Klux Klan, we hope to keep it clean; to keep down rowdyism, but to help preserve our heritage as white citizens."

On February 17, 1956, [redacted] advised that [redacted] with other officers as follows:

[redacted] advised that he [redacted]  
[redacted]  
On February 24, 1956, [redacted] furnished SA [redacted] with a copy of the application for membership, which is set forth as follows:

"'TIME FOR ALL WHITE PEOPLE TO BE COUNTED'  
JOIN THE BALLOT BOX PARADE  
Register and Vote For Officials Supporting Segregation  
Citizens' Council of West Alabama - Box 792, Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
Please Consider My Membership

I, [redacted] do hereby pledge myself to help defeat the N.A.A.C.P., Integration, Mongrelism, Socialism, Communist Ideologies, F.F.P.C. and One World Government.

I will help preserve the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, States Rights, Segregation, and our God-fearing American nation.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

BH 105-299

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Membership Annual Dues \$3.00. Contributions Accepted.  
Do Not Send Cash in Mails - Send Check or Money Order  
- The N.A.A.C.P. Organized - Why Not You?"

\* \* \* \* \*

On February 27, 1956, [redacted] advised that the WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA at the present time has approximately 600 members. He stated that [redacted]

The Tuscaloosa City Directory reflects [redacted]

According to [redacted]

On March 12, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] advised that the Executive Committee of the Council had not yet been elected. He stated that the organization itself is opposed to violence and will not condone such acts; that the individuals in making application for membership pledge themselves not to engage in actual violence.

On March 13, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] voluntarily appeared at the Resident Agency of the FBI, Tuscaloosa, and furnished SA [redacted] with a copy of the Constitution of the WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, which is set forth as follows:

"CONSTITUTION OF THE WHITE CITIZENS' COUNCIL  
OF WEST ALABAMA

"We, the white citizens of West Alabama, in order to uphold and promote the continuance of separation of the races as affording the only solution to the well-being of the community, to peaceably meet, discuss, and disseminate the truths concerning insidious and un-American organizations and individuals dedicated to the overthrow of the United States Constitution and the Southern way of life, and to combat these conspiracies within the framework of legal procedure, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution for the White Citizens' Council of West Alabama.

ARTICLE I

"The name of this organization shall be the White Citizens' Council of West Alabama.

ARTICLE II

"In accordance with the objectives as set forth in the Preamble of this Constitution, the White Citizens' Council of West Alabama is dedicated to the maintenance of peace, order and domestic tranquility in our community and in our State; and to the preservation of States' Rights by peaceful and legal means. This organization is not based on hate, for any organization so founded cannot long endure.

ARTICLE III

Section I

"The membership of this organization shall consist of patriotic white citizens who have attained the age of eighteen (18) years.

Section II

"Membership to this organization shall be conditioned on application to the Secretary and approval of the Executive Committee.

"Application for membership will be contingent upon the applicant's agreement with the organization to abstain from participation in acts of violence, such action being contrary to the character to this organization and detrimental to the purpose for which it stands.

### Section III

"A temporary, emergency committee composed of the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman and four members of the Executive Committee will be formed to investigate and act upon cases of individual acts of violence to determine whether such conduct on the part of any member warrants his or her expulsion from the organization.

### Section IV

"This organization does not assume responsibility for illegal acts or ungentlemanly conduct on the part of any member.

### ARTICLE IV

"The officers of this organization shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Board of Directors.

"The officers shall be elected by the membership of the organization and shall serve for one year from the date of election or until their successors shall have been elected or appointed as hereinafter provided.

### ARTICLE V

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings or the organization and shall have the power to call special meetings of the membership in his sole discretion and serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee and ex officio member of all committees. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, or the Treasurer in that order may exercise all prerogatives of the Chairman.

"The Secretary shall keep all records, and it shall be his duty to see that the membership is notified of any called or annual meeting.

"The Treasurer shall collect and receive the funds of the organization and disburse them on approval of not less than three other officers of the organization including the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman. All Disbursements shall be made by check, or otherwise, on the authority of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall submit an annual report to the membership at the regular meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI

"The annual meetings and all called meetings shall be held at the time and place designated by the Board of Directors and upon due notice to the membership.

"The Chairman may call a special meeting of the membership at any time he deems necessary, and in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, of the Treasurer in that order may exercise all prerogatives of the Chairman.

#### ARTICLE VII

"A Board of Directors shall be elected by the membership and shall number not more than 12 members, and they shall serve for one year from the date of their election or until such time as their successors are elected or appointed.

"In addition to the power enumerated in Article VI, the Board of Directors shall have the power to increase or decrease their number to fill any vacancies, to alter the amount of annual dues, and to appoint, with the approval of the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, such committees in addition to the ones provided for this Constitution if such be deemed necessary or desirable.

"The Board of Directors shall have the power of an advisory body to the other officers of the organization in the appointment of the Executive Committee and the Standing Committees.

#### ARTICLE VIII

"An Executive Committee shall be appointed by the officers of the organization, viz., the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, and shall number not more than 8 members.

"The Executive Committee shall be a working committee which, in addition to those powers given it by the by-laws, shall have all powers inherent in the Board of Directors.

"The Executive Committee shall have the power to alter or amend the by-laws of the organization and shall determine and control the policies and conduct the affairs of the organization, and shall have the power and authority to overrule any decision of any committee of the organization, except the Board of Directors.

"The Executive Committee shall have the authority for case shown satisfactory to a majority of its members to expel any member of the organization, and such action shall be final and not subject to review.

"The Executive Committee shall meet on call of the Chairman, or in his absence or refusal to call a meeting, the Committee may be called together by any three members thereof.

#### ARTICLE IX

"The Standing Committee shall be appointed by the officers of the organization, viz, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, and shall be four in number, and shall have such membership as in the judgment of the officers is necessary or expedient.

#### Section I

"It shall be the duty and function of the Committee for Information and Education to seek information pertaining to racial problems existing throughout our nation, to present to the people of our community the truths concerning these problems, and to convince all people every-

where of the advantages of racial separation and the dangers of integration.

#### Section II

"It shall be the duty and function of the Committee for Political Affairs and Elections, to investigate and examine candidates for local and state elections, and to present their qualifications to the public. This committee shall attempt to secure from all candidates written and/or oral statements pertaining to vital issues and subjects prior to an election. Pronouncements and platforms of all candidates so contacted by this committee will be publicized for the interest and benefit of the electorate.

#### Section III

"It shall be the duty and function of the Committee for Membership and Finance to enlist all patriotic white citizens for membership subject to the conditions as specified in Article III, Section I. This committee shall also consult with, advise, and assist the Treasurer in the handling and promulgation of financial policy.

#### Section IV

"It shall be the duty and function of the Committee for the Legal Action to provide the legal assistance and guidance by which the aims and objectives of this organization may be realized through lawful, constitutional means. This committee shall also exercise continual vigilance to anticipate moves by agitators, and shall devise legal means for the solution of any racial problems that might arise locally.

#### ARTICLE X

This constitution may be amended or changed by a two-thirds majority vote of all members at any annual meeting of the organization; provided however that this Constitution may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any called meeting of the membership providing five days written notice of the

amendment to be offered is mailed to each member of the organization.

ARTICLE XI

In the event any part or parts of this Constitution shall be in conflict with any part or parts of the Constitution of the Alabama White Citizens' Council for the State of Alabama, those parts shall be null and void. Further the dues which shall be required for membership of the White Citizens' Council of West Alabama shall be the sum of Three (\$3.00) Dollars per year, and this amount it is agreed that One (\$1.00) Dollar of each of the dues so collected shall be paid to the White Citizens' Council of the State of Alabama."

\* \* \* \* \*

[redacted] stated that permanent officers and members of the Executive Committee had not yet been elected; however, that a meeting was to be held March 16, 1956, in the auditorium of the Tuscaloosa County High School, Northport, Alabama, at which time it was contemplated that officers would be elected and members of the Executive Committee would be appointed.

The TUSCALOOSA NEWS, issue of February 18, 1956, Tuscaloosa, reported the speakers at the February 17, 1956, meeting of the Council as State Senator WALTER C. GIVHAN of Selma, Alabama: [redacted]

[redacted] is reported to have told the group that WALTER REUTHER and [redacted] labor leaders, did not speak for the labor unions of Tuscaloosa.

The NEWS article reported, "The group apparently plans action before the February 29 hearing by a Federal Judge of an injunction [redacted]"

[redacted] advised on February 13, 1956, that no action had been taken by the Council to bar [redacted]



BH 105-299

[redacted] and pointed out that [redacted]  
[redacted]

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BH 105-299

ADMINISTRATIVE

[redacted] was being contacted b6  
on other official matters when he voluntarily stated that he was b7C  
a member of the WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA at  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and furnished the foregoing information  
concerning this Council.

L E A D S

BIRMINGHAM

At Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Will follow and report pertinent activities of the  
WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA.

REFERENCE

Bureau airtel to Birmingham, 2/23/56.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

March 28, 1956

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.

DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/rb7c b6

WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST  
ALABAMA, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

There is being furnished you herewith one  
copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted]  
dated March 16, 1956, at Birmingham, Alabama, concerning  
the captioned organization.

You may desire to review the contents of this  
report in detail in connection with the provisions of  
Executive Order 10450.

The report being furnished you does not reflect  
the results of a full investigation of this organization  
but only information obtained through limited inquiries  
being made to ascertain the influence, if any, in this  
organization of Ku Klux Klan members or others who advocate  
repressive tactics against minorities; to determine whether  
its programs and activities bring it within the purview of  
Executive Order 10450 and to develop data regarding this  
group's potential for violence.

Enclosure

CFW:sad  
(4)

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

File number on incoming incorrect.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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SE 45

EX - 107

MAR 29 1956

APR 5 1956

105-46001-2X

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WAT  
[signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 6032

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont *[initials]*  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons *[initials]*  
Rosen *[initials]*  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
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Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

③  
Citizens Council  
Tuscaloosa

**Ala. U. Student  
Named as Speaker**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 11 (CP) — Leonard Wilson, the University of Alabama student expelled for participation in the Autherine Lucy riots, was proposed yesterday as keynote speaker on the Democratic National Convention.  
Mr. J. Williams Jr., of Anniston, a candidate for delegate-at-large, said he favored either Wilson or some other expelled Alabama student who took part in the campus demonstrations last February.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*McArthur*

*file 105-45090*

Wash. Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. News *[initials]*  
Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

105-46001-A

*105-45090-A*

NOT RECORDED  
191 APR 17 1956

Date *4-11-56*

*Page 3,*

*7152*  
71 APR 17 1956

Date: March 28, 1956

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST  
ALABAMA, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

There is being furnished you herewith one copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 16, 1956, at Birmingham, Alabama, concerning the captioned organization.

The report being furnished you does not reflect the results of a full investigation of this organization but only information obtained through limited inquiries being made to ascertain the influence, if any, in this organization of Ku Klux Klan members or others who advocate repressive tactics against minorities; to determine whether its programs and activities bring it within the purview of Executive Order 10450 and to develop data regarding this group's potential for violence.

The information furnished you concerning the captioned organization is for your confidential use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

COMM - FBI

MAR 3 1956

MAILED 24

Enclosure

77 MAR 29

105-46001-2X1

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

2cc - Director of Special Investigations (w/enclosure)  
The Inspector General  
Department of the Air Force  
Building 7000 E. 23rd St.  
4th and Adams Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D. C.

BY COURIER SERVICE

17 MAR 30 1956

RECORDED - 64  
EX-122

CFW:sad

(9)

Letter to Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army

2cc - Director of Naval Intelligence (w/enclosure) *BAK*  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BIRMINGHAM**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>5-1-56</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/17,19;4/7/56</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> <b>fc</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED</b> <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA</b> <b>Tuscaloosa, Alabama</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Twelve members of Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala., elected as members of the Board of Directors.  

  No information available as to any further pertinent activities of council.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

**DETAILS:** The title of this case is changed to drop the word "White" from the title, formerly carried as "White Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala."

On March 17, 1956  , advised that the following 12 individuals, members of the council, had been elected to the Board of Directors of the Citizens Council of West Alabama:  

  advised that this election had taken place at a meeting held at the Tuscaloosa County High School, Northport, Ala. on March 16, 1956.

On March 19, 1956   advised that  

*Let AAG w/fee rpt  
5/2/56  
CAG*

AGENCY G-2, ONI, OSI  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 5-17-56  
HOW FORW. RIS  
BY CFW-el

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">[Signature]</div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (105-46001) 1 G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. 1 ONI, 6th Naval Dist., Charleston, S.C. 1 OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 2 Birmingham (105-299)		105-46001-3  25 MAY 3 1956	SE 47  RECORDED - 93  INDEXED - 93

BH 105-299

The Tuscaloosa News, Tuscaloosa, Ala. issue of March 18, 1956 stated that [redacted] had announced that he would not be a party to any move to discredit the University of Alabama, President G. C. CARMICHAEL or Gov. JAMES E. FOLSOM. [redacted] reportedly stated that he thoroughly approved of the University of Alabama's action in expelling [redacted]

[redacted] stated according to the above paper, "I sent in my dues because I wanted to make a contribution to the legal fight to preserve segregation." [redacted] advised, according to this paper, that he is firmly against integration but 100 per cent for the University and Dr. CARMICHAEL.

The Tuscaloosa News, Tuscaloosa, issue of March 17, 1956 reported that [redacted] at the meeting of March 16, 1956.

On April 7, 1956 [redacted] advised that he had no information of pertinence to furnish concerning the Council and its activities.

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BH 105-299

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ADMINISTRATIVE

LEADS

THE BIRMINGHAM DIVISION:

AT TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

Will report any pertinent activity of the Citizens Council  
of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

REFERENCE: Report of SA  3-16-56, Birmingham, Ala.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

0-1  
(9-22-54)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (Your file 105-299)

DATE: 5-7-56

FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile &amp; serial 105-45090-1)

SUBJECT: CITIZENS COUNCIL OF TUSCALOOSA

Office of Origin: BIRMINGHAM

IS - X

1. ( ) The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to submit a report immediately. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau, Room # 1704.

Report submitted 5/1/56Report will be submitted                     Reason for delay See report Sa

dated 5/1/56 "Citizens Council of West Alabama"  
Tuscaloosa, Ala, IS-X, Bufile 105-46001

2. ( ) Advise Bureau re status of this case.
3. ( ) Advise Bureau when report may be expected
4. (X) Surep immediately.

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)

105-46001

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIAL 3	FILED
MAY 8 1956	
BIRMINGHAM	

0-19 (11-22-55)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
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Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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**Ala. U. Student  
Named as Speaker**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 11 (UP) — Leonard Wilson, the University of Alabama student expelled for participation in the Autherine Lucy riots, was proposed yesterday as keynote speaker on the Democratic National Convention.  
C. M. J. Williams Jr., of Anniston, a candidate for delegate-at-large, said he favored either Wilson or some other expelled Alabama student who took part in the campus demonstrations last February.

NOT RECORDED

126 APR 20 1956

Wash. Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Date APR 11 1956

JUN 11 1956 *aw*

~~58 APR 23 1956~~

~~55 JUN 6 1956~~

~~68 JUN 7 1956~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 5/16/56

FROM : SAC, Birmingham

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

SUBJECT: CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA.  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Re Bureau 0-1 form captioned, "CITIZENS COUNCIL OF TUSCALOOSA, IS-X" and bearing Bufile 105-45090.

b6  
b7C

Bureau attention is referred to the changed title report of SA [redacted] dated 5/1/56 at Birmingham, Alabama, in the case captioned as above, that is, "CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, IS-X", Bureau file 105-46001.

- ② - Director, FBI (105-46001)  
1 - Birmingham (105-299)

PAP:a  
(3)

RECORDED - 72

EX-125

29 MAY 18 1956

INT. SEC.

Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

May 22, 1956

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/b6  
b7C

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

There is being furnished you herewith one copy of  
the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 1, 1956,  
at Birmingham, Alabama, concerning captioned organization.

Your attention is directed to page 2 of this report  
wherein information is set forth indicating that [redacted]

[redacted] at a meeting held on March 16, 1956.

In the absence of any information indicating this  
organization advocates violence or lawlessness or information  
showing that this council has been infiltrated or is dominated  
by the Ku Klux Klan the data concerning [redacted] is not being  
disseminated to the Civil Service Commission or to the  
Department of Interior.

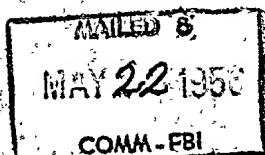
Enclosure

105-46001

RECORDED-125

105-46001-5

11 MAY 23 1956



CFW:bas:mag

(4)

29 MAY 23 1956

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>7/3/56</b>	Investigative Period <b>6/26,27/56</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA</b>		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	Typed By: <b>fc</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>	b6 b7C
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw			

Synopsis:

Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, states Council presently inactive. Subsequently advised closed meeting to be held Tuscaloosa County Court House, Tuscaloosa, Ala., 6/29/56.

DETAILS: AT TUSCALOOSA, ALA. (

P. *elf*  
(5)

AGENCY *RRB 4, 67, ONI OSI*  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. *7-13-56*  
HOW FORW. *P/S*  
BY *CFW-el*

On June 26, 1956  Citizens Council of West Alabama, advised SA  that the Council at Tuscaloosa, had been inactive and that interest in the organization was slowing down. He stated that sufficient interest in the organization had not been developed to have an election of permanent officers.

On June 27, 1956  advised SA  that there was to be a closed meeting of the Council at the Tuscaloosa County Court House, on June 29, 1956.

*Off to Birmingham  
Lump immed 7-7-56 CFW/el*

*6-1 dtd 6-24-56  
Birmingham adv  
Rept will be sent 7-21-56 - 10-2-56 H*

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: ⑥ Bureau (105-46001) 1 G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. 1 ONI, 6th Naval District, Charleston, S. C. 1 OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 2 Birmingham (105-299)		105-46001-16	RECORDED - 7 INDEXED - 7 23 JUL 5 1956

**COPIES DESTROYED**

**252 JUL 3 1972**

**52 JUL 16 1956**

BH 105-299

ADMINISTRATIVE

LEADS

THE BIRMINGHAM DIVISION:

AT TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

Will report any pertinent activity of the Citizens Council  
of West Alabama.

REFERENCE: Report of SA  5-1-56 at Birmingham, Ala.

b6  
b7c

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>7/3/56</b>	Investigative Period <b>6/26, 27/56</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA</b>		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; margin: 5px 0;"></div>	Typed By: b6 fc b7C
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>  ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw	

**Synopsis:**

Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, states Council presently inactive. Subsequently advised closed meeting to be held Tuscaloosa County Court House, Tuscaloosa, Ala., 6/29/56.

P.

**DETAILS:** AT TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

On June 26, 1956  Citizens Council of West Alabama, advised SA  that the Council at Tuscaloosa, had been inactive and that interest in the organization was slowing down. He stated that sufficient interest in the organization had not been developed to have an election of permanent officers.

On June 27, 1956  advised SA  that there was to be a closed meeting of the Council at the Tuscaloosa County Court House, on June 29, 1956.

P.

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below			
Copies made:  ⑥ Bureau (105-46001) 1 G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. 1 ONI, 6th Naval District, Charleston, S. C. 1 OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 2 Birmingham (105-299)					



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>9/26/56</b>	Investigative Period <b>9/19/56</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA; Tuscaloosa, Alabama</b>		Report made by [Redacted]	Typed By: <b>MFL</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>	

Synopsis:

[Redacted]  
Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Tuscaloosa Council voted on 6-29-56 to affiliate with Citizens Council of Alabama with headquarters at Montgomery, Ala. [Redacted], urged council members at Tuscaloosa, Alabama to vote for States' Rights tenets and labeled Supreme Court of United States as composed of "nine nincompoops" and called the United Nations a "rotten racket" whose members, empowered with political immunity are out to destroy the United States.

DETAILS:

In a bulletin issued by the Citizens Council of West Alabama, 205 Masonic Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Post Office Box 792, dated July 16, 1956, the council reported a total of 800 members in the present organization.

Approved [Signature] Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 6 - Bureau (105-46001) 1 - G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. 1 - ONI, 6th Naval District, Charleston, S.C. 1 - OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 2 - Birmingham (105-299)	105-46001-7 RECORDED-35	
	INDEXED-35	
	25 OCT 1 1956	
	[Redacted]	

AGENCY **RAB-6, G-2, ONI, OSI**  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. **10-9-56**  
HOW FORW. **R/S**  
BY **CFW-el**

60 OCT 10 1956

BH 105-299

This bulletin reported that [redacted]  
[redacted]  
the death of Mr. LEWIS A. WADE, originally elected as temporary chairman. The Tuscaloosa telephone directory reflects [redacted]

[redacted] at the same address. This bulletin also reports that the Publicity Committee was to consist of [redacted]

[redacted] This meeting, according to the "Tuscaloosa News", Tuscaloosa, Alabama, issue of June 30, 1956, took place on June 29, 1956.

This bulletin reported that two of the five candidates for the Mayor of Tuscaloosa, [redacted] GEORGE VAN TASSLE were members of the Citizens Council of West Alabama. Mr. GEORGE VAN TASSLE has since been elected Mayor of Tuscaloosa and holds the office of President of the City Commission. 11A

The "Tuscaloosa News", Tuscaloosa, Alabama, issue of June 30, 1956, reported that the Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, had voted at the meeting of June 29, 1956, to affiliate itself with the Citizens Council of Alabama with headquarters at Montgomery, Alabama, in order "that our time-honored custom and tradition of racial segregation shall be maintained in the schools and other places."

The "Tuscaloosa News", Tuscaloosa, Alabama issue of September 8, 1956, reported that on September 7, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] told a gathering of 450 West Alabama Citizens Council members at the Fairground Park in Alberta City, a suburb of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, that "no red-blooded American can lend his support to either the Republican or Democratic parties as presently constituted and keep his self-respect."

[redacted] also, according to this news item, stated, "Citizens Councils are supposed to be non-political, and I am well aware of the fact, but I say the Councils must engage in the most serious political battle of their lives,

BH 105-299

as individuals, if we are to maintain the principle of states-rights and racial integrity."

Reported in the audience was [redacted]  
[redacted]

[redacted] also stated, according to this news item that both the Republican and Democratic Parties are peddling Communism, which they call social welfare programs, and vying for the Negro vote; that neither party holds anything for the people who love America and the Constitution of the United States.

[redacted] according to this article, urged the people of Alabama to vote for States' Rights candidates [redacted]

[redacted] according to this article, labeled the Supreme Court of the United States as composed of "nine nincompoops" and called the United Nations a "rotten racket" whose members, empowered with political immunity, are out to destroy the United States. [redacted] spoke of "our defiled Constitution" and told of the battles out of which emerged the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, with its guarantees of personal freedom and States' rights and reminded her listeners that they should demand of their national and state legislators a rigid adherence to its precepts. She said the United Nations was much to blame for the "South's race trouble" and said that organization "sits like a horrible vulture in New York, meddling with our lives and at the same time, refuses to recognize God, infiltrates our churches with literature with a Godless, communistic philosophy."

This article reports that [redacted] was introduced at this meeting by [redacted]  
[redacted]

The "Tuscaloosa News", Tuscaloosa, Alabama issue of August 18, 1956, reported a meeting of the Citizens Council of West Alabama at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, at which time

BH 105-299

Rear Admiral JOHN G. CROMMELIN, retired, told members of the Citizens Council that the Boutwell Amendment was basically an integration amendment that would strike out of the present Constitution, "the Rock of Gibraltar which reads separate schools shall be provided." This amendment, according to the "Tuscaloosa News" issue of August 16, 1956, to be voted on August 28, 1956, would authorize the Attorney General of the State of Alabama, to defend State, County and City school authorities in any suits brought against them for not opening their white schools to Negro students; that judicial powers would be conferred by the amendment on all members of State County and City schools boards and also on school officials, superintendents and employees in Alabama, planned to safeguard them in their actions by being immune from suit or prosecution as judges; that it would also establish freedom of choice for white children to attend white schools and Negro students to attend Negro schools; that the legislature would also be given power to abolish any public school which might be compelled to integrate, substituting a private segregated school operated with a State subsidy.

- P -

BH 105-299

ADMINISTRATIVE

LEADS

THE BIRMINGHAM DIVISION

At Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Will follow and report pertinent activity of  
the Citizens Council of West Alabama.

REFERENCE: Report of SA(A) [redacted] Birmingham  
dated July 3, 1956.

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b7C

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

8

Election next Tuesday—

# Citizens Councils back No. 2 and 3

BY FRED TAYLOR  
News staff writer

New support was thrown behind the public schools and parks segregation amendments today by Citizens Councils as this campaign surged toward Tuesday's voting.

West Alabama Citizens Council members, meeting at Tuscaloosa County Courthouse, unanimously endorsed Amendments Nos. 2 and 3, while the executive committee of West End Citizens Council likewise gave the two proposals unanimous backing.

Amendment No. 2—the "freedom of choice" measure, is designed to help preserve classroom segregation of the races by paving the way for the Legislature to set up a three-way public school system.

AMENDMENT No. 3 is aimed at maintaining segregation in all public parks and playgrounds.

While more Citizens Councils were going to bat for the two proposals, State School Supt. Austin Meadows and Dr. E. B. Norton, president of Florence State Teachers' College, were firing new shots at it.

Dr. Meadows declared that the "so-called 'freedom of choice' amendment should be dubbed the 'give-away' amendment, because it gives away the constitutional right of children of today and of children yet unborn to education or training at public expense."

STATE SEN. ALBERT BOUTWELL, one of the chief sponsors of the school segregation amend-

ment, reemphasized in a speech to the West Alabama Citizens Council that ratification of the amendment will save Alabama's public schools and keep them from being destroyed by agitators seeking to enforce integration.

The council gave its unanimous endorsement to the "freedom of choice" measure, after hearing Boutwell's address.

MERRITT NEWBY is chairman of the West End Council, with John Nolen heading that group's political committee.

State Sen. James Coleman Jr. of Eutaw spoke in behalf of the school and parks segregation amendments last night at Helen, urging members of Alabama Citizens Council to back the measures.

And Boutwell, whose speech at Tuscaloosa last night was his 50th in behalf of the two amendments, addressed the Gadsden Civic Club at noon today at Reich Hotel. He will speak to the Sylacauga Citizens Council at 7:30 p.m. tonight at a rally in the high school stadium.

MEANWHILE, State Sen. Sam Engelhardt, executive secretary of the Citizens Councils of Alabama, which have endorsed both amendments, and newly-installed Alabama Democratic National Committeeman Charles W. McKay Jr., along with others, were preparing to deliver a TV-radio appeal tonight in behalf of the proposals.

Appearing with them at 7 p.m. over WBRC-TV will be Dr. W. J. Terry, former state school superintendent, and Hugh A. Locke, Birmingham attorney.

They will present reasons why the Legislature and Alabama State Bar Assn. "urge approval of Amendment No. 2 to keep segregated schools in Alabama."

DR. NORTON, in detailing reasons why he opposes Amendment No. 2, said "I am heartily in favor of maintaining separate schools for the races."

Pointing out that he had taught in white schools more than 30 years, Dr. Norton said "I certainly am not in favor of becoming so excited over the critical problems which we face in reference to our present situation that we will abandon the constitutional provisions for public education in Alabama."

Jefferson State Rep. Charles Nice Jr., who voted against the school amendment in the Legislature, also opposes its ratification, warning that it could result in abolition of the public school system.

Tolson\_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols\_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman\_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont\_\_\_\_\_  
Mason\_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr\_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons\_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen\_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm\_\_\_\_\_  
Nease\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd\_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman\_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy\_\_\_\_\_

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b7c

File

Me. L. L. L. L. L.  
Citizens Council  
of West Alabama

file  
105-46001

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS  
Birmingham, Alabama  
August 24, 1956  
Red Star Final

RACIAL SITUATION  
BH DIVISION

197  
197  
197

105-46001-A  
NOT RECORDED  
191 SEP 5 '56

8194  
2 SEP 5 1956

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (105-46001)

DATE: 11/24/56

FROM : SAC, Birmingham (105-299)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

SUBJECT: CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA,  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X.Rerep SA  Birmingham, 11/23/56.b6  
b7C

One copy of instant report is being furnished to the Mobile Office in view of the fact that the above council is affiliated with CITIZENS COUNCILS OF ALABAMA, with headquarters Montgomery, Alabama.

In the future copies will be furnished Mobile.

② Bureau  
1 Mobile (Enc. 1)  
1 Birmingham  
DFP:hwb  
(4)

RECORDED-20

241  
105-46001-8  
NOV 26 1956

EX-126

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rept. closed  
66 NOV 30 1956

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>11/23/56</b>	Investigative Period <b>11/15/56</b>	b6 b7C
TITLE OF CASE  <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</b>		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	Typed By: <b>MFL</b>	
		CHARACTER OF CASE ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw  <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>		

Synopsis:

Congressman ARMISTEAD I. SELDEN, Sixth Congressional District, Alabama, addressed Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala., 10-19-56, and reportedly stated he was unalterably opposed to integration of South's public school system. According to newspaper reports, SELDEN advised this Council South's chance of fighting legislation to implement Supreme Court's decision in 1954 regarding integration would be weakened if Republicans regained control of Congress. Stated Southern members of Congress made it clear that despite urgent need for school construction funds, they would not vote for a measure that could be used to implement Supreme Court's decision of 5-17-54. Council endorsed the independent slate of electors in Presidential Campaign.

DETAILS:

The "Tuscaloosa News", a local daily newspaper of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, issue of October 20, 1956, reported

AGENCY RA 60-6,62,081, OSI  
- P -  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 12-3-56  
HOW FORW. RLS  
BY CFW-el

Approved

Special Agent  
in Charge

Do not write in spaces below

Copies made:

- ⑥ - Bureau (105-46001)
- 1 - G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga.
- 1 - ONI, 6th Naval District, Charleston, S. C.
- 1 - OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 2 - Birmingham (105-299)

COPIES DESTROYED

105-46001-9	
NOV 25 1956	RECORDED-18 INDEXED-18
FOI XE	

6-1 DEC 4 1956

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BH 105-299

that on October 19, 1956, Congressman ARMISTEAD I. ~~SELDEN~~ from the Sixth Congressional District of Alabama, spoke before the Citizens Council of West Alabama at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, at which time he reportedly stated that he was unalterably opposed to integration of the South's public school system. SELDEN, according to this article, told the Citizens Council of West Alabama audience that the South's chance of fighting legislation to implement the Supreme Court's 1954 integration decision would be weakened if Republicans gained control of Congress; that such control would automatically cause Southern Congressmen to lose their chairmanship, that the influence of these men as committee heads and the Senate's unlimited debate privileges are the South's two main weapons in Congress for opposing integration legislation. SELDEN cited opposition by Southern Congressmen to the Powell Amendment which would have denied Federal school funds to segregated schools. He reportedly stated to the Council audience that Southern Members of Congress made it crystal clear that despite the urgent need for school construction funds, they would not vote for a measure that could be used to implement the Supreme Court's decision of May 17, 1954. He stated the Civil Rights Bill which passed the House was delayed long enough so that no action was taken in the Senate.

According to this newspaper article, SELDEN stated that this same legislation would be introduced in Congress in January 1957, and cited "a few of the dangers" of the bill that passed the House.

The newspaper article indicated that SELDEN advised that a commission on Civil Rights would be created with the power of subpoena, a power never before granted to any Federal bureau; that any citizen could be summoned to Washington on mere suspicion of discrimination; that under this threat, it would be risky to voice an opinion, even to a friend.

SELDEN, according to this article, stated that this unsound bill would allow the Attorney General to start civil proceedings on behalf of persons complaining of being

denied civil rights; that the bill would destroy, rather than protect, the civil rights of the American people.

This newspaper article reflected that [redacted] opened the meeting with an invocation and that Congressman SELDEN was introduced by State Senator JAMES S. COLEMAN, who is Justice-Elect to the Alabama Supreme Court.

The "Tuscaloosa News", Tuscaloosa, Alabama issue of November 4, 1956, reported that the Citizens Council of West Alabama at a meeting held November 2, 1956, had endorsed the independent slate of electors in the Presidential Election. According to this newspaper article, [redacted] stated, "They would better represent the interests of those who believe in States' Rights." The newspaper article reflected that the first Friday of each month was set for business meetings of the Council.

A Citizens Council pamphlet distributed by the Citizens Council of West Alabama, Post Office Box 792, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, was obtained upon its public distribution. It is noted that this pamphlet, in answer to the question, "What is the Citizens Council?" stated that it was a modern version of the old-time town meeting called to meet any crisis by expressing the will of the people; that the right to peaceably assemble for a redress of grievances is guaranteed in the first one of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution of the United States of America; that the Citizens Council simply provides the machinery for mobilizing, concerting and expressing public opinion; that the councils are independent groups located within towns and counties of the State with local officers consisting of President, Vice President (or Chairman and Vice Chairman), Secretary and Treasurer; that the majority of the councils have elected a Chaplain to open and close their meetings.

This pamphlet recites that each council has four basic committees, including:

BH 105-299

1. Information and Education--This committee seeks information pertaining to racial problems throughout the nation and presents to the people within its community the truth about the racial question, thereby nullifying the propaganda from alien influences and pressure groups.

2. Political and Elections--This committee, according to this pamphlet, studies candidates for local and State elections and presents their qualifications to the voters.

3. Membership and Finance--This committee enlists all patriotic white citizens for membership. The pamphlet states that "Every white Southerner should be proud to pay this amount in our battle for States' Rights and the individual right to educate his children with children of his own kind." The pamphlet stated further that it was the "fundamental right for every American to have pride in his race and to avoid conditions that might foster and promote inter-marriage of his children with other races."

4. Legal Advisory--This committee, according to the pamphlet, provides the legal knowledge that will aid the Council to achieve its aims by constitutional lawful means; that if the way of life of forty million people supported by over a century of precedence and practice can be upset legally by nine political appointees, that surely legal steps can be taken by a determined majority to correct this grievance. This committee, according to this pamphlet, anticipates moves by agitators and devises legal means for the solution of any racial problems that might arise locally.

In answer to the question, "Why does your community need a Citizens' Council?", this pamphlet states that the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), aided by alien influences, bloc vote seeking politicians and left-wing do-gooders, will see that the community has a problem in the near future; that the Citizens Council is the South's answer to mongrelizers; that the South will not be integrated, and that the South is proud of its white blood and white heritage of 60 centuries.

BH 105-299

The pamphlet continues with the statement that people with racial pride are attacked by the NAACP and its affiliates as being bigoted, prejudiced, biased, immoral, un-American, etc.; that these hysterical smear words are used in lieu of any logical reason why a person can no longer be loyal to his white blood, his church, his state, and his nation above all else; that if the South is bigoted, prejudiced and un-American, so were GEORGE WASHINGTON, THOMAS JEFFERSON, ABRAHAM LINCOLN and other illustrious forebears who believed in segregation; that if the South submits to the unconstitutional judge-made integration law, the malignant powers of atheism, communism and mongrelization will surely follow, not only in the South, but throughout the nation.

In answer to the question, "How will the Citizens' Councils roll back the dark cloud of integration?" the pamphlet states that this will be done by organizing the white Americans who have pride in their white race and forethought for posterity, by mobilizing public opinion; that it is sickening to hear brain-washed educated people whine, "It's inevitable. There's nothing we can do. We have lost."

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- 5 -

BH 105-299

ADMINISTRATIVE

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b7C

LEADS

THE BIRMINGHAM DIVISION

At Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Will follow and report pertinent activity of the  
Citizens Council of West Alabama.

REFERENCE: Report of SA(A)  Birmingham,  
dated September 26, 1956.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>11/23/56</b>	Investigative Period <b>11/15/56</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</b>		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	Typed By: <b>MFL</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>	

Synopsis:

Congressman ARMISTEAD I. SELDEN, Sixth Congressional District, Alabama, addressed Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala., 10-19-56, and reportedly stated he was unalterably opposed to integration of South's public school system. According to newspaper reports, SELDEN advised this Council South's chance of fighting legislation to implement Supreme Court's decision in 1954 regarding integration would be weakened if Republicans regained control of Congress. Stated Southern members of Congress made it clear that despite urgent need for school construction funds, they would not vote for a measure that could be used to implement Supreme Court's decision of 5-17-54. Council endorsed the independent slate of electors in Presidential Campaign.

- P -

DETAILS:

The "Tuscaloosa News", a local daily newspaper of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, issue of October 20, 1956, reported

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below			
Copies made:  ⑥ - Bureau (105-46001) 1 - G-2, 3rd Army, Ft. McPherson, Ga. 1 - ONI, 6th Naval District, Charleston, S. C. 1 - OSI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 2 - Birmingham (105-299)					

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>1/14/57</b>	Investigative Period <b>1/11/57</b>
TITLE OF CASE  <b>CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</b>		Report made by <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100px;"></div>	Typed By:  <b>rvm</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>	

Synopsis:

U. S. Representative SELDON in speech before Council 10/19/56  
opposed integration. Council endorsed independent slate of  
electors in presidential election.

[redacted] spoke to public  
meeting of Citizens Council of West Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala.,  
1/4/57, and stated Supreme Court's decision, referring to  
segregation in public schools, was not only without law, but  
without decency, morality or good sense and that court had  
quoted a Communist writer as their authority.

[redacted] in speaking to same  
group, called for a "law and order" approach to racial problems  
and suggested that "both elements are going to have to do a  
lot of working together". [redacted] speech reportedly inter-  
rupted by jeers.

AGENCY **RA 65-16,620 N5,052**  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. **1-29-57**  
HOW FORW. **FILE**  
BY **CFW-jel**

Approved  <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
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			RECORDED-66
		23 JAN 16 1957	INDEXED-66

*File reviewed*

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EX-125

BH 105-299

DETAILS: The TUSCALOOSA NEWS, a daily newspaper, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on October 17, 1956, carried an article ~~speaks of~~ stating that U. S. Representative ARMISTEAD J. SELDON would speak before the West Alabama Citizens Council that Friday, October 19, 1956, and the meeting would be open to all white citizens. The article further stated that a business ALA meeting, open to members only would be held November 2, 1956.

The TUSCALOOSA NEWS, October 20, 1956, carried an article covering SELDON'S speech which quoted him as stating he is "unalterably" opposed to integration of the South's public school system.

The TUSCALOOSA NEWS, November 4, 1956, carried an article stated the West Alabama Citizens Council had endorsed the independent slate of electors in the then forthcoming presidential election.

The TUSCALOOSA NEWS issue of January 4, 1957 reported that on January 4, 1957, [redacted] was to address a public meeting of the Citizens Council of West Alabama at the Tuscaloosa County Courthouse. According to this article, [redacted] had been criticized by the council members "during the turmoil over enrollment of the University of Alabama's first Negro student last February". ALA

According to this article, [redacted] was invited to address the open meeting by [redacted] CITIZENS COUNCIL OF West Alabama. ALA

The article stated [redacted] at the time the Negro [redacted] was admitted and "led several demonstrations against her." [redacted]

An article appearing in the TUSCALOOSA NEWS issue of January 5, 1957, stated that [redacted] called for a "law and order" approach to racial problems and suggested that "both elements are going to have to do a lot of working together."

This article stated that an unbilled segregation speaker, one [redacted] who de-



nounced the U. S. Supreme Court, newspapers, preachers, "and a few other things," got the most shouts and handclapping from an overflow crowd at the Citizens Council of West Alabama public meeting January 4, 1957. The article continued stating that [redacted] was introduced by [redacted]

[redacted] It stated [redacted]

[redacted] also introduced COPELAND.

This article quoted [redacted] as stating, "You don't have to be a lawyer to know that the Supreme Court decision was not only without law but without decency, morality or good sense. The Federal Government has swanned you welfare rights for states rights one at a time. [redacted] charged, according to this article, that the Supreme Court in making the decision, "quoted a Communist writer as their authority."

[redacted] advised all fighters in the Council movement to "stay out of the courts", which, he said, are a one way street leading in the wrong direction. He stated, "The only sure way to oppose an invasion is by organized resistance." [redacted] told the audience that he "had been cited twice by Federal Judges for contempt."

The article stated that [redacted] told the audience that "we in the South are outnumbered. We don't like what the Supreme Court has said. But we have been telling the rest of the country to go to hell and we can't do that and get away with it." [redacted] stated, "Some plan, based upon admission of qualified Negro students to graduate and professional schools offering courses not now available in Negro institutions seems to me to offer the best possibility"; that, "if in return for this concession, Negro students could refrain from making other applications to white schools for a period of trial and adjustment, that would contribute to a gradual solution."

[redacted] stated that some concessions are going to have to be made whether they are gradual or sudden. He added that, "In the public school area, the problem is far more complicated and difficult", and stated, "I cannot see how integration can possibly be accomplished on any major scale in Alabama anytime soon."

BH 105-299

[ ] stated, "I have no quarrel with you as a Citizens Council for making any legal and ethical fight you might choose to make to preserve a system which you honestly think is just and right." He continued, "that is your unquestioned privilege in a democracy, the finest system of government yet devised. But if others are refused the same thing, I believe a great mistake will have been made. I believe that if we really stand for liberty and justice, it must be for all."

The TUSCALOOSA NEWS on January 6, 1957, carried an article indicating that [ ] was interrupted several times by jeers and received light applause at the conclusion of his speech. According to this article, when [ ] asked the audience what they would do when another Negro student appears on the campus, one voice answered "kill him!" and another shouted "hang him!"

The TUSCALOOSA NEWS on January 6, 1957, also carried an article captioned [ ] Not on List. [ ] Finds." This article makes reference to [ ] statement in his speech that he had attended the University of Alabama in the early 1930's. The article quotes [ ] as stating he had searched student records and has not been able to find any indication that [ ] ever attended the institution.

- C -

BH 105-299

L E A D S

MOBILE (INFORMATION)

A copy of this report is being furnished Mobile inasmuch as subject Council is affiliated with the Citizens Councils of Alabama, in which case Mobile is Office of Origin.

LITTLE ROCK (INFORMATION)

A copy of this report is being furnished Little Rock in view of the fact [REDACTED] is reported to be from Hot Springs, Arkansas.

REFERENCE

Report of SA [REDACTED] 11/23/56, Birmingham.  
Bureau letter to Atlanta, 12/13/56, captioned  
CITIZENS COUNCILS: IS - X.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Reporting Office <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Office of Origin <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	Date <b>1/14/57</b>	Investigative Period <b>1/11/57</b>
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Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below			
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GIR 8

Mr. T. L. n	_____
Mr. N. A. is	_____
Mr. B. A. nard	_____
Mr. Belknap	_____
Mr. Morris	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Boone Jeered; Copeland Talk Lasts For Hour

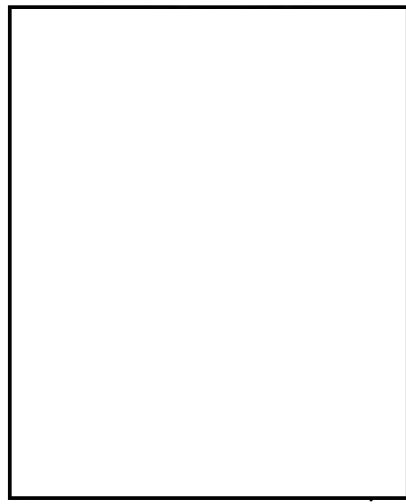
Friday night's speakers at the open meeting of the Citizens Council of West Alabama received contrasting receptions from the crowd that filled the large courtroom on the second floor of the courthouse.

Buford Boone, publisher of The News, who had been invited by leaders of the organization to speak on segregation, was interrupted several times by jeers. He received light applause at the conclusion of a 29-minute speech.

At one point, he asked the members of the group what they would do when another Negro student appears on the campus of the University of Alabama. One voice in the audience answered: "Kill him!" and another shouted "Hang him!"

Later, during questions and answers, Boone was the target of one shouted suggestion to "throw him out of the window." The speaker said, however, that Temporary Chairman Leonard Wilson "did an excellent job of presiding, successfully quieted the crowd at times when it threatened to become boisterous, and he and other officers and members were most courteous and considerate of me as an invited guest."

The other speaker was Curtis (Curt) Copeland of Hot Springs, Ark. No announcement had been made in advance that Copeland was to speak. Radio Station WTBC had programmed an hour for the meeting, having expected to cover the one address anticipated and the questions and answers to follow. The full hour was used, but when it expired Copeland's address had not been completed. Copeland spoke for approximately one hour.



*Handwritten signature*  
2-1

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DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
January 6, 1957

*file*

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST  
ALABAMA.  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
IS - X.

INDEXED-42

EX. 434

105-46001-A  
NOT RECORDED  
191 JAN 22 1957

7219  
64 JAN 23 1957

Mr. Tison \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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 b7c

## Copeland Not On List, Adams Finds

Dr. William F. Adams, dean of admissions at the University of Alabama, said last night that he has searched student records and that he has not been able to find any indication that Curtis (Curt) Copeland ever attended the institution.

Copeland, from Hot Springs, Ark., spoke Friday night at an open meeting of the Citizens Council of West Alabama. He made references to having been called here by Coach Wallace Wade, and to having studied law here.

Dean Adams said the records search covered names of alumni and students attending all departments, including the law school.

A recording discloses the following in Copeland's address:

"This ain't the first time I've been sent for to come to Alabama. The first time I was sent for, Wallace Wade asked me to come down here back in the early thirties, and I remember coming, and I also remember that about the only thing that Tuscaloosa, Alabama, has ever been noted for was a football team. And you wouldn't a had that if it hadn't a been for Arkansas boys that come down here. . . .

"I did study law out here, what little time they had between quarterback sessions, training trips and whatnot. I got through torts. That's the first chapter in the law book, and I question there being a constitutional lawyer in North America that's any more of an authority than I am on torts, the first chapter of that book out there."

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THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
 Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
 January 6, 1957

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
 WEST ALABAMA  
 TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
 IS - X.

105-46001-A  
 NOT RECORDED  
 191 JAN 22 1957

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GIR 8

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Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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# Copeland's Spe To Council

## Copeland Talk Went Past Time Limit Set By Radio

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Printed on this page is a transcript of a recording of a speech Friday night by Curtis (Curt) Copeland of Hot Springs, Ark. This transcript does not cover his full address, which was made from notes rather than a full text.

Arrangements to broadcast the program were made by Radio Station WTBC, with plans for an hour to cover one address and questions and answers to follow. The second address followed the first, and Mr. Copeland still was speaking when the hour expired.

What appears here is that portion of his address that was broadcast, it being approximately one half. The News regrets that it could not obtain a recording of all of his talk.

The other speaker used a text, and the full content of his talk is given on the opposite page.)

Well, as the two-year-old heifer yearling said to the milk maid on a cold frosty morning, "I thank you for the warm hand."

My friends, and I use the salutation "my friends" advisedly, you know the only time ever recorded in the Holy Scriptures that our Savior Jesus Christ ever addressed anyone as "my friend" was immediately before the dark hours of Gethsemane when Christ knew that he had already been betrayed and he knew that he had been betrayed by his own people.

That's the reason I say "my friends" here tonight, because we have already been betrayed by our own people. You know, my friends, this thing tonight is not a small question, it's not the question of whether or not a few snot-nosed nigger younguns will attend the schools with your grandchildren or whether or not a few impudent nig-

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CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
WEST ALABAMA  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
IS - X.

105-46001-A  
NOT RECORDED  
191 JAN 22 1957

50 JAN 23 1957

ers will ride on the front seat of a bus. Our question that we are confronted with in Alabama tonight is whether or not Christian civilization shall continue to exist on earth or whether or not we shall be enslaved in the Communist conspiracy.

This thing didn't start with the Supreme Court decision and it didn't start day before yesterday. I don't know exactly when it did start, but I know that when I went to Washington with Huey Long the first day that I was there the NAACP of which I had never heard at that time laid exactly the same mess of demands on the desk of every senator and congressman in Washington back in the early 30's that they are demanding today. And mind you, I use the word "demand."

#### Reds Involved

All of those demands are based upon and are predicated upon and are aimed at exactly the same proposition; the destruction of racial relations in the South and the final collapse of Christian civilization.

In 1920 Moscow sent a man over here to determine how would be the best and simplest and the quickest way for them to overthrow the United States of America. That man came over here and it was then exactly like it is now. We are the biggest saps on earth. We gave him full facilities, showed him everything we had. He made his report back to Moscow and he said there is no power on earth, nor a coalition of powers, that can overthrow the United States of America from without. But if you will just take a little time, the American people are the most trusting, the most charitable and the most gullible people on earth and they will help you to overthrow it from within.

And he said "we must infiltrate the United States of America and we must especially go down into the Southern part of the United States of America. (Commonly known among the moderationists and the intellectuals as the Bible Belt). There they have two peoples, the blacks and the whites, living together in the closest of harmony. They have lived together for several generations each of them in their own communities."

This fellow said, "we're going to go down there and create a feeling of unrest, dissension and hatred among the Negro people and we have to educate the young white person to a feeling of guilt because of the way his grandfather persecuted the poor down-trodden Negro", and ask your own teen-age child how successfully they have infiltrated the minds of your own younguns in the school books that are being taught today.

#### Not First Crisis

I, too, am a sort of a jack-leg newspaperman. I have been in the habit, I reckon you'd call it. My friends, during the past four years, and particularly after the infamous Supreme Court decision I have rapidly become ashamed of my profession, trade, habit or what not. I'll tell you one thing, my friends, if back during the first crisis that this country faced — this is not the first crossroads that Christianity and civilization has faced down through the ages; we have always had a crisis to confront our peoples and fortunately we have always had men that could lead us through and maze and intricacies of that next crisis. After the crucifixion of Christ when our peoples met on the day of Pentecost if you'll remember, the cry went up: "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" And they had twelve men there left to tell them what to do.

Then when we came on down to our immediate history back in the revolutionary period when we were about to gain our independence, had we had newspapermen then like we have now on most of our daily newspapers, instead of men like Ben Franklin and Tom Paine, we tonight would still be a crown colony of Great Britain and I don't know but what we would get out cheaper.

#### Attacks Preachers

Now we've got two other messes of trash that have caused us more trouble even than the newspapermen. We've got, I guess the worst offenders, probably the people that have hurt us the most in the South than any other one people are peoples who have more influence for good or bad than any other element of our society and that is our top-water preacher. Our preachers today have followed the golden calf off so far away from the gospel of

Jesus Christ that they wouldn't recognize it if it was written in stud horse litters and guts enough to preach it if they could understand.

And then the next one that have hurt you more than anyone else and will hurt us more in the future than all the rest of them put together is the so-called intelligent educator. Now you all might think it's a little impudent for a country boy to come out of the mountains in Arkansas and come down here in the cradle of the Confederacy and talk to Alabama people about segregation or anything else. I reckon it is.

But this ain't the first time I've been sent for to come to Alabama. The first time I was sent for Wallace Wade asked me to come down here back in the early 30's and I remember coming and I also remember that about the only thing that Tuscaloosa, Alabama has ever been noted for was a football team; and you wouldn't a had that if it hadn't a been for Arkansas boys that come down here. And then, too, I have an especially warm place in my heart for Alabama because whether you have ever produced anything else or not that's worth anything you do have the honor or something or other in Alabama of producing the finest women on earth, because I know. I have been married to one of the things for 25 years.

#### Studied Law

My friends, at least there is a

difference of opinion here tonight as regards the Constitution of the United States. I am not a constitutional lawyer. While I was in Tuscaloosa I was studying the same thing the average young boy is — and I took one of 'em home with me.

I did study law out here, what little time they had between quarterback sessions, and work-outs and train trips and what not. I got through torts. That's the first chapter in the law book and I question there being a constitutional lawyer in North America that's any more of an authority than I am on torts, the first chapter of that book out there.

But you don't have to be a lawyer, my friends, to study that Supreme Court decision and to study the background of the Supreme Court decision to know what I am talking about when I tell you that not only was it without law or precedent, it was also without decency, morality or good sense. I told you this thing didn't start day before yesterday and I told you what I saw in Washington, D. C. and that same set of demands. And I also remember that at that same time up there it was published in three of the Washington newspapers where that old battleax Eleanor Roosevelt had invited 52 women, she had entertained 52 women out of a reformatory there at an afternoon tea at the White House.

God knows there are thousands of clean, decent virgin Christian white girls all over the South that would be highly honored to be



invited to a tea at the White House as the guests of the first lady of the universe. But instead of that—instead of sending down to Alabama and getting some of our fine girls and having them up there, she had to go out to a reformatory and get 52 women—46 of them nigger women—and the Washington newspapers said they were all so foul with communicable social diseases that they were confined in a reformatory because they weren't fit to associate with society.

#### Too Good For Her

And I can remember what Huey told me when he read that—he said "Curt, I agree with that. They are not fit to associate with society, but there's not a dad-blamed one of them that ain't too good to associate with old lady Roosevelt." And then I watched that thing in Washington for a few years and I went back to the Chicago-Philadelphia convention in 1948 as a delegate from the State of Louisiana. I was proud to be a young Democrat, proud of the honor bestowed upon me by the State of Louisiana to associate with the great Democrat party leaders. My daddy was a Democrat. My granddaddy was a Democrat. My great granddaddy was a Democrat. I never aimed to be anything except a Democrat. I attended that convention up there and to my utter consternation they had that great convention opened by a hammer-headed nigger preacher as black as the inside of a burnt stump and I didn't know then whether I was so proud of being a Democrat or not. And it wasn't five minutes until another nigger from up here in Missouri, some place, or another—I can't think of that nigger's name, but if you've ever seen his picture that nigger had a mouth big enough to swallow a No. 3 can of kraut in one mouthful. And he kept that mouth open for five days denouncing the people of the South and every time he wasn't on the floor, Hubert Humphrey, a so-called white man, was on the floor with the same line of junk. And I decided after looking over that mess of trash there that day, before we walked out of the convention from the State of Louisiana, got he be like the nigger ridin' the mule.

The nigger got on the mule one old frosty morning and the mule bucked a jump or two and got one of his hind feet hung in the stirrups and the nigger looked at his foot up in the stirrup and he said, "Look, here, Mr. Mule, if

you're going to get on I'm going to get off." And when I looked at Hubert Humphrey, Herbert Lehman and all that mess of trash representing the grand old Democrat party I decided, "Son, it's time for you to get off." And I got off and come back home, and I spoke all over Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas in behalf of Strom Thurmond and I attempted to tell you exactly what we was going to be faced with here tonight.

#### Worse Than Thought

I didn't tell it as bad as it was because I didn't think it would ever be as bad as it is, and I thought I was lying about it when I was telling you what it was going to be.

But I'd tell you what we are going to be confronted with and you'd shake your head and look at me sadly and say, "Son, they'll do that up in Illinois and Ohio and New York, but they ain't gonna do that in Alabama. There'll never be none of that here in Alabama." You needn't worry about that.

My friends, I tell you tonight that it is much worse in Alabama than I ever thought it would be in 1948. And then I watched as our rights one by one were taken away from us. Oh, I am not going to tell you that the federal government stepped in and took our states rights away from us one at a time. They didn't. They swapped you the welfare state for your states rights one at a time until today we have absolutely no rights left to the State of Alabama.

#### Nine Scallawags

I watched all those things; I didn't know where we were going. I was kinda in hopes that something would happen to awaken and arouse the white people in the South. And finally, we got hit all at once. Before you knew anything about it, out they come with that damnable decision by the United States Supreme Court, them nine scallawags up there desecrating one of the finest court benches on earth.

And it was a fine thing, I'm telling you, the best thing that ever happened to the people of the United States of America was when that Supreme Court decision was handed down. When that Supreme Court decision was handed down it was sorta like the nigger preacher that sold a mule to one of his deacons. He sold him a mule and he told him, he said, "Now brother, you're going to have to be awful kind and gentle and careful and peaceable and persuasive with that

mule. I've raised that mule from a colt, and I knows all about his habits and there ain't no way you can get along with him but gently and kindly."

And the next morning the deacon went out to break up a turnip patch and he like to never got the bridle on the mule. When he did, he got the collar on, and then he looked like he was gonna have to have help to get the hames on. You know, I've saddled and harnessed up some of them, too.

#### Mule Trouble

Finally he got him harnessed and got him hooked to the plow and there wasn't any way on earth he could move him. He'd pull on the bridle and the mule would just stretch his neck. And he couldn't even pull him sideways. And he looked out in the road and saw that nigger preacher going by that sold him the mule. He said, "Oh, Reverend, Reverend, would you come by here a minute? I've having a little trouble with this mule." And the preacher came in and he said, "What seems to be the trouble, deacon?" He says, "I can't get him to move nohow." "Oh," he said, "I've had a little trouble with him on occasion like that myself and there ain't but one way to move him. I'll show you, and you won't never have no more trouble." So the preacher picked up a good sound seasoned ax handle and hit the mule right across the nose as hard as he could and he moved him a little bit and he said, "See there." And the deacon said, "Yeah, I see there, but I know you told me about being so kind and gentle and persuasive with that mule." "Yeah, Deacon," he says, "You is got to be kind and gentle and persuasive, but you is first got to attract that mule's attention."

My friends, I know and I hope that the Supreme Court decision attracted the attention of the people of the South.

#### Gives History

Now then, immediately following the War Between the States, back in the Reconstruction days, I want to give you some history of this Supreme Court decision. And then you make up your mind for yourself whether or not it's morally right or legally right or what kind of a right you think it might be. If you will recall, I don't know about in this country, but in the county that my granddaddy was living in up in Arkansas, there wasn't a white man in that county qualified to vote. Every white man had been disenfranchised; they had a nigger judge and a nigger sheriff and they had a few white fellows that had drifted in

there out of Ohio or some place that wasn't as good as any nigger in the state of Arkansas.

Our granddaddies were confronted with that situation and about that time, my friends, the 14th amendment to the Constitution of the United States was adopted. And if you will recall your history, even they wouldn't adopt that amendment and they had to come into the South at the point of the bayonet and vote the nigger in order to pass the 14th amendment, and no constitutional lawyer that knows anything about his history will even attempt to argue to you that there is any constitutional grounds for the 14th amendment to the Constitution. There never was a more damnable piece of infamy perpetrated on our helpless people than the 14th amendment was on your granddaddies. But they immediately handed down the separate but equal facilities of how to live within the framework of the law and the Constitution.

The first one of those cases went to United States Supreme Court in 1896 and the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the principle that separate but equal facilities for the nigger or the Chinaman or the hound dog or anybody else was constitutional and legal. And immediately our fathers and your grandfathers and mine all over the South practically bankrupted every school district in the South

to provide separate but equal facilities for our nigger citizens.

#### White Man Pays

And I don't know how it is in Alabama but I think I know. Over in Arkansas the white man pays 98.6 per cent of every dollar in taxes that goes into the treasury to support the State of Arkansas and furnish schools for the colored and the white. That leaves the nigger paying about two or three per cent reluctantly but they do all of the hollerin' and all of the bellyachin' and all of the demanding. Then, my friends, after the 1896 decision the nigger has gone back to the United States Supreme Court, or to circuit courts of appeal or other federal courts—they have gone back 135 times to have that decision set aside and it has been upheld by learned, honorable, decent Supreme Court benches until it got down to this one.

Not one lawyer of all the members of the Supreme Court that handed down this iniquitous decision, all of 'em together had served on some kind of a court bench about six weeks, but they set down to tell every lawyer and every court in the United States what the law is; and in their own decision they didn't quote the law; they didn't quote a precedent; they didn't quote an established tenet of law. They went completely out of English and American jurisprudence, and they quoted a Communist writer, one Gunnar Myrdahl, as their authority for that.

Now, my friends, if the circuit court judge of this county in Alabama were to be trying a case in litigation between you and John Jones, and you knew before you went into that courtroom that John Jones gave that judge a new automobile, paid his house rent, bought his wife a fur coat, gave him \$350 in the bank and set him up a trust fund over here, what in the devil kind of justice could you expect out of that?

#### Condemns Judges

But that is exactly what's happened with the nine—with five of the nine—of the Supreme Court judges have accepted cash, presents, emoluments, all kinds of honors from the Communist party and the Communist party itself had their own attorneys before that same bunch of trash to argue this integration question. That's the kind of justice that they know anything about.

Now, you talk to me about the Constitution. I'll tell you the only part of the United States Constitution that an moderationist, integrationist or anything else on that side is interested in, the only part of the United States Constitution that they have an interest in, is the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution that all of their friends hide behind to keep from saying whether they are Communists or not, and the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. The rest of it they've kicked out the window, they spit upon, they've stomped into the dust, and I'll guarantee you that I am perhaps the only man you ever saw, and I hope to God I am the last man you ever see, standing before you tonight under two permanent federal injunctions against making a speech on the segregation question anywhere on earth.

Why is it that these people who are so concerned over the Constitution of the United States will hand down and ask some little top-water peckerwood federal judge "Put that man under an injunction to keep him from talking, he's dangerous." And he'll do it.

What becomes of the First Amendment to the Constitution that guarantees me the right of free speech and guarantees that man the right of free press? If you are going to trample one part of the Constitution, you'll have to ignore all of it. And understand, I'm still under those two injunctions and I also want you to understand that I ain't making no speech, I'm just kinda talking around on this subject.

(Radio coverage ended at this point.)

# Negroes Will Attend Capstone, Newsman Says

TUSCALOOSA, Jan. 4 (AP)—Buford Boone, publisher of The Tuscaloosa News, told a Citizens Council meeting tonight that integration in the University of Alabama is inevitable.

Boone urged that the West Alabama Citizens Council to uphold law and order when the next Negro seeks admittance to the University.

The University was the scene of rioting last February when Autherine Lucy of Birmingham became the first Negro to be admitted to the school.

Boone said in a prepared address in the Tuscaloosa County courthouse that compromises are going to have to be made on both sides.

"For whites, the contribution must be in a willingness to give up some of their traditions and customs so as to share more equally the blessings of education," he said.

"For the Negro, the contribution must be acceptance of less speed than could be demanded legally in implementation of newly established rights. Meanwhile, time and attention can be directed by our Negro groups and institutions toward a greater understanding of the responsibilities of first-class citizenship. For there is much responsibility along with privilege," he declared.

The publisher commended the Citizens Council for its policy of opposing activity outside the law to preserve segregation.

"Your organization has taken a stand against activity outside the law. What are you going to do when the next Negro student appears on the University campus under the protection of our courts and with the right to expect assistance from law enforcement officers, if needed?" he asked.

"Right now, tonight, you can put off the answer to that question. But sooner or later, and I have no idea how soon or how late it will be, another Negro student will appear on the University campus. Under such circumstances are whites again going to attempt to take the law into their own hands? And if so, will you be a party to such mob action, either in person or in moral support?" the publisher asked.

Boone, called by the citizens council "an advocate of integration," clarified himself on the issue.

"I believe the Supreme Court decision had to come and was morally right. Nothing in it is inconsistent with my conception of democracy, even though a back-

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

b6  
b7c

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD  
Birmingham, Alabama  
January 5, 1957  
Final Edition

SE 43

4-1-57  
JAN 22 1957

71 JAN 24 1957

ground of Southern living, Southern custom and Southern tradition tells me it will be strange to see colored faces at the University of Alabama. But I believe we should prepare ourselves to accept this development, since it has been ordered as rightful and just by our courts. We are on the front line of democracy. We are being tested as a people, as a community and as a state, and we alone can give the answer of whether we can and will make the compromises and adjustments that will be unnatural, difficult and hard, but make them we must, if we are to stay within the law . . .

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Boone To Talk At Meeting Of CC Tonight

TUSCALOOSA, Jan. 3 (P) — Buford Boone, publisher of The Tuscaloosa News, will address a meeting of the Citizens Council of West Alabama at the Tuscaloosa County Courthouse tomorrow night.

Boone was criticized by council members during the turmoil over enrollment of the University of Alabama's first Negro student last February.

The News rapped the mob violence that drove Autherine Lucy from the university campus, urging respect for law and order.

The publisher was invited to address the open meeting by Leonard Wilson, temporary chairman of the council.

Wilson was a university student at the time the Negro co-ed was admitted, and led several demonstrations against her. Wilson was expelled for his criticism of university authorities.

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD  
Birmingham, Alabama  
January 4, 1957  
Final Edition

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
WEST ALABAMA,  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
IS - X.

BUFILE 105-46001

105-46001-A -  
NOT RECORDED  
102 JAN 14 1957

52 JAN 14 1957

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Nease  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

## AT CITIZENS COUNCIL RALLY

# Boone Calls For Law, Order, But Segregationist Gets Cheers

By BOB KYLE  
News Staff Writer

Buford Boone, Tuscaloosa News publisher, last night called for a "law and order" approach to racial problems and suggested that both elements are going to have to do a lot of working together. But an unbilled segregation speaker from Hot Springs, Ark., who denounced the U. S. Supreme Court, newspapers, preachers and a few other things, got the most shouts and handclapping from an overflow crowd at a White Citizens Council rally in the county courthouse.

Curt Copeland, introduced by chairman Leonard Wilson as pub-

### Boone's Text Will Be Printed

The full text of Buford Boone's address to the Citizens Council will be published in Sunday's Tuscaloosa News as an editorial.

It has been reported that parts of the proceedings may be carried by television on a news program on Channel 6, Birmingham, probably on the 5:30 news program Monday.

The Eric Severeid news program which also may carry reviews of the meeting, is not carried on Channel 6, the spokesman said.

sher of the Arkansas Faith, a worker in the states rights movement for 10 years and a follower and close associate of Louisiana's Huey P. Long, followed Boone in the program.

**Condemns Court**  
Fred Short, Birmingham, who is publisher of The Dixie American, introduced Copeland.

"Two messes of trash that have hurt us most," said the fiery Copeland "are the top-water preachers, who have followed the Golden Rule so long they wouldn't recognize guts, and our so-called intelligent educators."

"You don't have to be a lawyer," said Copeland, "to know that the Supreme Court decision was not only without law but without decency, morality or good sense. The federal government has swapped you welfare rights for states rights one at a time," Copeland declared. He described the Supreme Court decision on segregation as a "damnable thing."

He said, "I hope it has attracted the attention of the people of the South." He charged that in making the famous decision, the Supreme Court judges "quoted" a Communist writer as their authority.

### Negro Is Pawn

Copeland advised all fighters in the Citizens Council movement to "stay out of the courts" which he

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
January 4, 1957

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
WEST ALABAMA  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
IS - X.

INDEXED - 32

1105-4-1  
NOV 1957  
191 JAN 24 1957

61 JAN 28 1957

said "are a one-way street leading the wrong direction." The Negro, said Copeland, "is merely being used as a pawn."

"I am not speaking to the younger generation," Copeland declared. "They have been brain-washed in the schools."

"The only sure way to oppose an invasion is by organized resistance," Copeland stated. He said he went to school at the University of Alabama "before Vaseline Lucy decided to go there."

"It is not a question of whether a few impudent Negroes ride a bus or go to school with us," Copeland declared, "but whether or not the Christian civilization will continue to exist on earth or be enslaved by a Communist conspiracy. All demands aimed at destruction of racial segregation in the South are aimed at Christian civilization," said he.

**Cited For Contempt**  
Copeland told the group that he had been cited twice by federal judges for contempt. "I'm not making a speech tonight," said he. "I'm not supposed to. I'm just talking around."

Chairman Leonard Wilson said as Copeland concluded: "I think that was a real white man."

Publisher Boone told the crowd that "we in the South are outnumbered. We don't like what the Supreme Court has said. But we have been telling the rest of the country to go to hell and we can't do that and get away with it."

"They're going to do like you and I would if one of our communities told us it meant to violate the law as much as it pleased," Boone declared. "We'd control them lawfully. So will the rest of the country use the full force of the law on us if we drive them to it."

**No Easy Choices**  
"The choices are not easy," Boone said. "But circumstances have made them necessary in Clinton, Tenn., and in Montgomery. We were on the same spot here briefly last February, and with the court decisions standing as they do, we could find ourselves back there almost anytime."

"I anticipate that all other possible legal steps will be taken to evade and avoid compliance. But I cannot see any reasonable possibility of such moves being successful at doing more than delaying the inevitable," Boone declared.

Boone suggested that as practi-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

(Continued from Page 1)

cal and sensible approaches we must accept the Supreme Court's decision in principle and make some moves towards compliance.

"Some plan, based upon admission of qualified Negro students to graduate and professional schools offering courses not now available in Negro institutions seems to me to offer the best possibility," he said.

#### Gradual Or Sudden

"If, in return for this concession, Negro students could refrain from making other applications to white schools for a period of trial and adjustment, that would contribute to a gradual solution. But we are going to have to make some concessions, whether they are gradual or sudden," Boone declared.

"In the public school area, the problem is far more complicated and difficult," he said. "I cannot see how integration can possibly be accomplished on any major scale in Alabama anytime soon. Pressure for that development should not be exerted and if it is done, our public school system will be abandoned and possibly wrecked," Boone asserted.

"If we are to work out of this difficult situation, sacrifices, patience and tolerance will be required from whites and Negroes," Boone said. "For whites, the contribution must be in willingness to give up some of our traditions and customs so as to share more equally the blessings of education. For the Negro, the contribution must be acceptance of less speed than could be demanded legally in implementation of newly-established rights. Meanwhile, time and attention can be directed by our Negro groups and institutions toward a greater understanding of the responsibilities of first-class citizenship. For there is much responsibility along with privilege," Boone told the group.

"I have no quarrel with you as a Citizens Council for making any legal and ethical fight you might choose to make to preserve a system which you honestly think is just and right," Boone declared. "That is your unquestioned privilege in a democracy, the finest system of government yet devised. But if others are refused the same thing, I believe a great mistake will have been made. I believe that if we really stand for liberty and justice, it must be for all." Boone concluded.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc/lp/dcg/ntw

## News Publisher Will Address Citizens Council

Buford Boone, publisher of The News, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Friday to an open meeting of the Citizens Council of West Alabama at the county courthouse.

The only speaker scheduled for the program, Boone has been a target of criticism by council members since he took a stand for law and order during the Autherine Lucy incident.

Leonard Wilson, temporary chairman of the council, said there may be out-of-town council leaders present at the meeting.

Friday night's meeting comes at a regularly scheduled time for the council's monthly meeting.

A board of directors meeting has been set for tonight at the home of a member not identified. Wilson said no special topics are expected to be discussed.

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
January 3, 1957

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
WEST ALABAMA.  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA.  
IS - X.

105-46001-A  
NOT RECORDED  
191 JAN 22 1957

66 JAN 23 1957



SAC, Birmingham (105-299)

January 23, 1958

12788

RECORDED-13

Director, FBI (105-46001) - 11

EX-117

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

Reurlet dated January 14, 1958, in which you recommended that [redacted] be utilized in connection with furnishing information concerning captioned organization.

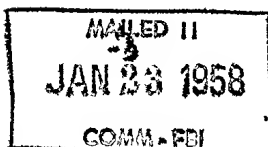
Bureau authority is granted to so utilize the services of this informant. [redacted] should be informed that the Bureau has no interest in the legitimate activities of these organizations but is interested only in violations of laws within the Bureau's jurisdiction, particularly civil rights violations, or information concerning possible acts of violence.

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1 - Bufile [redacted]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

[redacted] was initially contacted as a PSI



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CFW:d1h

(5)

MAIL ROOM

64 JAN 27 1958

JAN 25 5 00 PM '58

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
JFK  
DHC  
OHL

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (105-46001)

DATE: 1-14-58

FROM : SAC, Birmingham (105-299)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntwSUBJECT: CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Rebulet to Atlanta dated October 9, 1957, in the case entitled "Citizens Councils, Internal Security - X."

The following information is set forth regarding

1. [REDACTED]
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.

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4. [REDACTED]

5. Informant has furnished reliable information in the past and is believed to be trustworthy. He has furnished information regarding [REDACTED]

6. There is no information in the files of this office which would make it inadvisable to contact informant regarding Citizens Councils.

7. It is, therefore, recommended that informant be utilized in obtaining information regarding [REDACTED], in accordance with instructions set forth in referenced Bureau letter.

RECORDED - 67

EX-128

2 - Bureau (105-46001)  
3 - Birmingham (105-299)  
(105-241)

RM

3 JAN 16 1958

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CBS:MFL  
(5)

INT [Signature]

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (105-34237)  
FROM : SAC, Birmingham (105-364)  
SUBJECT: CITIZENS COUNCILS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

DATE: 4-12-57

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

Remylet 3-14-57 in captioned matter and Bulet  
to Atlanta dated 12-13-56, captioned "CITIZENS COUNCIL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X."

Enclosed herewith are eight copies of a blank  
memorandum in captioned matter dated 4-12-57.

Birmingham Confidential Informant  in the  
attached memorandum is

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Three extra copies of the attached memorandum  
are being submitted for the following Bureau files:

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF GORDO  
Bufile 105-46390

~~CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA,~~  
~~Tuscaloosa, Alabama~~  
Bufile 105-46001

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF EAST BIRMINGHAM  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Bufile 105-44731

- ⑤ - Bureau (Encls-11) RM  
(1: 105-46390)  
(1: 105-46001)  
(1: 105-44731)  
5 - Birmingham (105-364)  
(1: 105-272)  
(1: 105-292)  
(1: 105-361)  
(1: 105-299)

CBS:MFL  
(10)

105-46001-1 ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
175 APR 18 1957

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-34237-4-5

ENCLOSURE

53 APR 22 1957



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

300 American Life Building  
Birmingham 3, Alabama

April 12, 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

CITIZENS COUNCILS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

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The Birmingham News, a daily newspaper, carried an article on March 20, 1957, which stated that [redacted]

[redacted] would be a guest speaker on March 21, 1957, at a meeting of the EASTERN SECTION CITIZENS COUNCIL. This article stated the meeting would be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Cascade Plunge in East Birmingham.

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Birmingham Confidential Informant [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 21, 1957, that [redacted] the [redacted] held a meeting at [redacted] on [redacted] [redacted]

[redacted]

Birmingham Informant [redacted] furnished a circular which he stated was received by him from [redacted]

[redacted] It is noted that this circular is apparently a reprint of a "Report Compiled by American States' Rights Association, Inc., of Birmingham, Alabama."

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b7C  
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105-46001-✓  
ENCLOSURE

RE: CITIZENS COUNCILS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

It is noted that the AMERICAN STATES' RIGHTS ASSOCIATION is now practically inactive, but was organized about 1955. [redacted]

[redacted] This report included such items as "Final Report on Prison Population in 32 States and the District of Columbia"; "Venereal Disease Infection by State and Race", and "Illegitimate Birth by State and Race." According to [redacted] the circular urges "Join the West Alabama Citizens Council Today" and indicates that the address of this organization is 205 Masonic Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

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The Pickens County Herald and West Alabamian, a newspaper published at Carrollton, Alabama, carried an article on March 28, 1957, entitled, "Must Sacrifice if Keep Rights; Gordo White Citizens Council Told." This article stated that [redacted]

[redacted] spoke to the GORDO CITIZENS COUNCIL on March 23, 1957.

b6  
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This article quoted [redacted] as stating that the present civil rights bill submitted to the U. S. Congress would nail down integration and give the Federal Government control of elections, school and local governments. [redacted] said that if this bill should pass and be signed into law, Reconstruction day would return to the South. [redacted] according to this article, said that the only alternative left to Southern people is to vote and elect officials who believe in and are willing to protect the rights and ways of life of the South and be willing to stand up and fight for Southern rights and the Southern way of life.

According to the above article, [redacted] said people of the United States previously felt that their City, County and State Governments stood between them and the Federal Government, but that if the above mentioned civil rights legislation passed, then the Federal Government will be "closer than your City police, your City Government and your own Circuit Courts. It will, in fact, be a regulatory

RE: CITIZENS COUNCILS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

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power to which we all must conform." [ ] reviewed the history of Civil Rights legislation, stating that the United States Supreme Court has ruled on 14 different cases that "separate, but equal, facilities for the white and colored races was the 'law of the land'" and then in 1954, the Supreme Court reversed itself on all these prior decisions and repudiated what had been considered law for the past 70 years, according to [ ] reviewed the War Between the States and Reconstruction days in the South. [ ] asked his hearers, according to this article, to stand firm today and have the same courage and devotion to "your cause and your rights that your fathers and grandfathers did"; that if the Southern people are willing to make these sacrifices, then the "threat of racial integration can be turned back, if the people will stand up and fight for these rights and customs. Races must be kept separate, then each can rise as high as individual members' ability permits."

[ ] said that the Republican Party is less "aggressive and less determined to force civil rights legislation upon the South than is the Democratic Party, traditional party of this section."

[ ] was introduced by [ ]  
[ ]

Director, FBI (105-34237 Sub 4)

2-12-57

SAC, Birmingham (105-264)

CITIZENS COUNCILS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION  
IS - X

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

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Reylet 1-14-57, captioned "Klan Infiltration into Alabama Citizens Council; IS - X" and Telet to Atlanta dated 12-13-56, re "Citizens Councils; IS - X."

Enclosed herewith are eight copies of a blank memorandum dated 2-12-57, captioned "Citizens Councils, Birmingham Field Division."

Birmingham [redacted] in the attached memorandum is  
Birmingham [redacted] in [redacted] and Birmingham [redacted]

is

Birmingham [redacted] is

Four extra copies of the attached memorandum are being submitted for the following Bureau files:

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF CALERA, ALABAMA  
Bufile 105-45430

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST ALABAMA  
Bufile 105-46001

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF TARRANT, ALABAMA  
Bufile 105-43031

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF INGLEBY, ALABAMA  
Bufile 105-45528.

ENCLOSURE

6 - Bureau (Encls-12) REGISTERED

(2) 105-34237 Sub 4)

(1) 105-45430

(1) 105-46001

(1) 105-43031

(1) 105-45528

2 - Birmingham (105-264)(105-272)

CHS:MEL

(8)

NOT RECORDED

162 FEB 14 1957

64 FEB 19 1957

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 105-46001-4

SI 105-350

In accordance with the above referenced  
Bulet, the Birmingham Office will continue to follow this  
matter and the next monthly summary of information will  
be submitted to reach the Bureau by 3-15-57.





CONFIDENTIAL  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

Informant said he had attended meetings of the BIRMINGHAM CITIZENS COUNCIL and while he did not know all of members' names, he observed that approximately 750 had been seen by him at such meetings in Tarrant City. Informant [redacted] said in his opinion, if all of the Birminghams were taken out of the BIRMINGHAM CITIZENS COUNCIL, the Council would have no members left.

Birmingham Confidential Informant [redacted] contact with whom has been insufficient to determine his reliability, but who holds [redacted] advised on January 11, 1957, that [redacted]

[redacted] said in his opinion [redacted] and the above mentioned men are trying to get members from the BIRMINGHAM CITIZENS COUNCIL to join the Klan. [redacted] said he has heard some of the members of the BIRMINGHAM CITIZENS COUNCIL talk about buying ammunition. [redacted] said to the best of his recollection, the individuals he heard talking about buying ammunition are [redacted] not further identified.

The Birmingham News, a daily newspaper, for February 5, 1957, printed an article which stated that [redacted]

[redacted] spoke of the BIRMINGHAM COUNCIL OF LADIES meeting on February 2, 1957, at 6:00 p.m. This article stated that [redacted] is an outspoken advocate of continued segregation and has discussed the issue over the nation's radio through a lecture on "Obedience to the U. S. Constitution." According to this article, the meeting was sponsored by [redacted]

Birmingham Confidential Informant [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 6, 1957, that he has received a [redacted]

RE: CITIZENS COUNCILS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION

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Leaflet apparently published by the ALABAMA WHITE CITIZENS COUNCILS, 2001 Bessemer Road, Birmingham, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At the bottom of this leaflet is a notation, "ALABAMA WHITE CITIZENS COUNCILS; Telephone 56-4327." Informant [REDACTED] made this leaflet available and it is being set out verbatim to show the type of literature being disseminated by the ALABAMA CITIZENS COUNCIL under leadership of [REDACTED]

"We should surely realize by now, at this late hour, that there is only one alternative to integrating with the negro. That alternative is to draw the line and fight! The political leadership that has preached circumvention, dodge and run, parry and retreat and surrender by degrees, has led the people of Montgomery into integrated transportation; next comes schools and parks, as announced by the Montgomery negroes.

"You cannot satisfy the negroes and their communist pushers by running, or dodging. We state now, as we stated a year ago; we must draw the line and not retreat, not dodge, not run, not let cowardly politicians lead us down that fatal path. How to do it?

"The city commission race is May 1st of this year. Since ENFORCEMENT of segregation is the key to our salvation. Let us draw this platform that a candidate for police Commissioner must adhere to, BEFORE he gets our vote:

- "1. ENFORCE SEGREGATION IN TRANSPORTATION, SCHOOLS, RECREATION, PUBLIC FACILITIES, SPORTS AND ALL AREAS OF LIFE, REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SAYS, OR WHAT ACTION IT TAKES, IN-JUNCTION OR OTHERWISE.
- "2. CONSIDERATION, IF NECESSARY, 5,000 WHITE MEN AS AUXILIARY POLICEMEN TO ENSURE SEGREGATION IS ENFORCED.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT  
RECENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

3. SAY, OUR WHITE PARENTS AND FAMILIES ARE THE  
ATTEMPTING TO KILL AND DESTROY OUR CHILDREN.  
CONSCIOUSLY AND UNCONSCIOUSLY AND THROUGH THE  
MILITARY WHICH ARE WORKING CONSPIRACIES TO  
DESTROY OUR RACE.

4. TRY TO THE EXTENT OF YOUR POWER AND CONTINUING  
OUR PEOPLE'S LIVES. WE ARE LIVING WITHIN THE  
WALLS OF THE U. S. CONSTITUTION, BIRMINGHAM  
AND WASHINGTON, YOU, BIRMINGHAM, TO  
TRY. YOU HAVE TO ENFORCE THE CONSTITUTION  
LIVES, AND SO WILL ENFORCE YOUR RIGHTS  
TO TRY CONTINUE, WITHIN THESE SAME RIGHTS.

Each a stand would set the example for  
the South, for the rest of the Nation, and a  
great demonstration of local rights will take place  
the beginning of a movement to restore Americanism  
to America. What can you do? On another sheet list  
the names and phone numbers of the Council officers  
in this city call them, agree to cover your place  
with this sheet, and can make people to register,  
to agree to support this program in a whole way,  
and if no conference will agree to it. In some  
places you can, or you can, or you can, or you can  
do it.

## UA integration certain, fair, says publisher

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Jan. 5—(AP)—A Southern newspaper publisher Friday night urged a White Citizens Council to uphold law and order when the next Negro seeks admittance to the University of Alabama.

Buford Boone, publisher of the Tuscaloosa News, told the West Alabama Citizens Council here that integration at the University is inevitable.

He declared that concessions among both Negroes and whites would be necessary to avert bloodshed.

THE UNIVERSITY was the scene of violent demonstrations last February when Autherine Lucy was driven from the campus after attending classes for three days. She was the first Negro ever to attend the all-white school.

Boone addressed the council in the Tuscaloosa County Court-house by invitation. He had been called an advocate of integration by the council.

The publisher stressed the urgency of meeting the segregation issue with open minds.

"Fortunately, we came through our most difficult period with no lives lost and little blood spilled, but we had a lot of ammunition sold," Boone said in reference to the Lucy rioting.

"A lot of people were ready for a great deal of trouble. We could have had it in abundance the day that Autherine Lucy was taken from the campus."

HE SAID HE had been informed that ammunition and guns in quantity had been in evidence by members of both races during the days of the Lucy rioting.

"We got by then, but what about the next time?" he asked.

"Court orders applying to all Negroes give those who are qualified to enter the University of Alabama the right to do so. Your organization has taken a stand against activity outside the law. What are you going to do when the next Negro student appears on the University campus under the protection of our courts and with the right to expect assistance from law enforcement officers, if needed?"

Boone said that integration at the University is inevitable.

"Sooner or later, and I have no idea how soon or how late it will be, another Negro student will appear on the University campus. Under such circumstances are whites again going to attempt to take the law into their own hands?" he asked.

Turn to Page 2, Column 2

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Chs 11-1*  
*note - 6-1-1957*  
*BAUNGARD*

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS  
Birmingham, Alabama  
January 5, 1957  
Alabama Edition

ICC: AAG C. M. L. DIVISION  
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# Publisher

Continued from Page 1

The publisher said the Supreme Court decision outlawing come and was morally right. separate schools in 1954 had to REFERRING to a council charge that he is an integrationist. Boone said "nothing in it (the Supreme Court decision) is inconsistent with my conception of democracy, even though a background of Southern living, Southern custom and Southern tradition, tells me it will be strange to see colored faces at the University of Alabama. But I believe we should prepare ourselves to accept this development, since it has been ordered as rightful, and just by our courts."

Boone said Tuscaloosa is being "tested as a people, as a community and as a state, and we alone can give the answer of whether we can and will make the compromises and adjustments that will be unnatural, difficult and hard, but make them we must, if we are to stay within the law."

He reminded the council that this United States is one country, we in the South are outnumbered. We don't like what the Supreme Court has said, but we have been telling the rest of the country to go to hell, and we can't do that and get away with it.

"They're going to do like you and I would do if one of our communities told us it meant to violate the law as much as it pleased. We'd control them lawfully. So will the rest of this country use the full force of the law on us if we drive them to it," he declared.

BOONE SAID there will have to be compromises from both sides.

"For whites, the contribution must be in a willingness to give up some of their traditions and customs so as to share more equally the blessings of education."

"For the Negro, the contribution must be acceptance of less

speed than could be demanded legally in implementation of newly established rights. Meanwhile, time and attention can be directed by our Negro groups and institutions toward a greater understanding of the responsibilities of first-class citizenship. For there is much responsibility along with privilege."

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dcg/ntw

Mr. Tolson	_____
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Mr. Tamm	_____
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Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## EFFORTS NOT ENTIRELY IN VAIN

Mr. Buford Boone, Publisher,  
The News:

First, let me congratulate you for your courageous and excellent discussion of race relations at the meeting of the local W.C.C. last night. After listening on the radio to the kind of reception members of the C.C. gave you (or should I say failed to give you?), I feel compelled to let you know that there are still some people in Tuscaloosa who do not believe that "Christian civilization" will suddenly disintegrate if Negroes here are finally given some prerogatives of first-class citizenship. And after listening to the absurd and malicious charges of the Arkansas rabble-rouser who followed you, I must confess that I felt ashamed to realize that many people in the world will take his words as representative of the views of white Americans. Indeed, as I listened to this speaker, this person who brings discredit to our Constitution, Holy Bible, and skin color, I honestly experienced sheer disgust — accompanied by some nausea. Even "freedom of speech" can be violated; of this I am now certain.

Let me observe, too, that I got the impression Friday that the W.C.C. rather successfully "conned" you into accepting the speaking engagement in order to make invidious distinctions between their views and yours over the radio. I gathered that you anticipated being the only speaker and having a question-and-answer period following your address. It appears that you were duped and deliberately humiliated, which seeming facts I deeply resent. If there is any truth in my impressions of how the W.C.C. "used" you Friday night, it seems urgent to examine anew the question of how in the world honorable and rational Americans can establish meaningful communications with such people as they. Obviously they listened to you only in a physiological sense, certainly not in a social and psychological sense. What William James called, "the will to believe", was negatively illustrated by their failure to allow you to penetrate their emotional barriers to communication which involves alternatives to the unwise, immoral, and anachronistic course their group has chosen. I wonder what their behavior last night did to other members of the radio audience. If your humiliation served to show others, as it did me, what this W.C.C. group is really like, perhaps your efforts and pain were not entirely in vain.

RAYMOND L. GOLD

4113 11th St.

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
January 9, 1957

WEST ALABAMA CITIZENS  
COUNCIL  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
IS - X.

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

### LACK OF LEGAL KNOWLEDGE

Mr. Buford Boone, Publisher,  
The News:

I have just read with much interest an account of a speech delivered by you before a Citizens Council group in Tuscaloosa.

Without being disrespectful, I want to say to you that one passage of your speech shows a woeful lack of knowledge of legal principles. I have reference to your statement that you believed "the Supreme Court decision had to come and was morally right". Now, the question that immediately came to my mind was whether you had ever considered whether that decision was

legally right? If you know anything of law at all, you will know that the Statute of Frauds requires all contracts relating to real property to be in writing. This is an excellent law designed to prevent frauds and endless litigation over verbal contracts. However, I consider, as does practically everyone, that it is morally wrong for a person not to honor a verbal contract relating to real estate, but there is no question that he has a legal right to do so, and that the law is good both in purpose and effect.

If our courts degenerate to the extent that each and every case is decided according to the moral principles involved, how can any man be certain of just what the law is on any set of facts or circumstances? The answer, of course, is that the law would be in a state of chaos and utter confusion, and every litigant would be at the mercy of the whims of the judges. Would you like to have such a situation develop in this country? Would you like your property rights, your liberty, and even your life to be decided on other than established legal principles? God forbid that we should ever let anything like that happen to this country. Then, beyond recapture, our republican representative form of government would be dead, and we would be living under a judicial dictatorship.

NEWTON S. CHAMBERLEE

Birmingham, Ala.

### MUST BE CRAZY

Mr. Buford Boone, Publisher:

The News

Evidently you were a former inmate of your "other institution" in Tuscaloosa. Only one from Bryce or a warped mentality could talk as you do.

Integration is not inevitable nor will it ever succeed. I have tried to work Negroes in my home for 35 years. Working side by side with one, trying to teach them simply the art of sterilization of the dishes, is an impossible task. They cannot learn and they are not fit for association with our children because the Lord made them an inferior race and He intended them to stay that way. Have you ever seen a blue bird and a red bird mate?

I hope you lose every subscriber you have. Why you were ever asked to speak to the White Citizens' Council I cannot understand. You must be a Yankee and you must be a consolation to all the Communists who are fostering this move. Come down to Montgomery and we'll teach you what Southerners mean to do about this mess. I ordered a woman of your type out of my house last week.

The Supreme Court is wrong and we know it and we are going to win.

Recently in California a Negro man had bought a reserved seat on the daylight scenic train between Los Angeles and San Francisco. He had the seat by me. I demanded the conductor give me another seat and got it. I would have sat in the ladies' lounge all day before I would have sat by him. It will take all the tanks and guns in the U.S. Army to make me sit by a Negro man.

The UDC in Alabama has 27 scholarships at the University of Alabama. Last spring I gave the welcome talk to the state convention. I recommended we call in our scholarships from all integrated schools and today I wrote a letter to the state president urging it.

If you want the University of Alabama to go to the dogs just keep up your present manner of speech.

MRS. VESTA L. ROBERTSON

Montgomery, Ala.

P.S. — There is nothing morally wrong in segregation and we white people want it and we have as much right to have our wishes as the Negro has to have his. I am a grandmother and I am learning to speak Spanish so I can hire a Mexican maid. We do not have to keep the Negro in the South.



GIA 1

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# Gordo Judge Blasts Ministers, Churches At Citizens Meeting

CP is not the greatest enemy to our way of life in the South. Our greatest enemies are the ministers, the churches, educators, people who are close around us," Judge Verdo Elmore of Gordo told a meeting of the West Alabama Citizens' Council last night in the Tuscaloosa County Courthouse.

Judge Elmore and John Altman, an attorney of Carrollton, were principal speakers on the program at the meeting which was open to the public. Leonard Wilson, Council chairman, was in charge.

Judge Elmore, who is chairman of the Citizens Councils of Alabama, said the NAACP is an opponent we face across the table or across a line. We know them and can fight them. But it is the class of people whom only a few are thinking about who hurt our cause the most." He spoke of the "do gooders and politicians who play for the minority Negro vote."

"It is the pacifist crowd," said he, "The crowd who do not want to integrate our schools or colleges but who let John handle it and do nothing themselves."

"Some of my best friends are that way," said he, "the businessmen in small towns who are afraid of sacrificing a few dollars if they take an open stand. They say you do it and stand back and reap the benefits."

## More Strength Needed

He said the Citizens Councils of Alabama, Mississippi and other states have done a wonderful job of preventing any more integration that we've got but declared "we need more strength at the polls."

"We have opened the eyes of our two U. S. senators and a few other office holders," said he. "Both of them have put out more effort in the last 12 months than they did in all their lifetime before."

"We've got to lay aside prejudice, even friendship and vote for people we know are for our cause," he declared.

"The picture in Washington," said he, "is a little better right now. It was brought about by men dedicated to maintain segregation. If the battle line can be held for a few years I think we will win. God forbid that we shall ever see whites and Negroes sit side by side in our elementary, junior high and high schools in the South."

"I was raised among Negroes and I never have mistreated one. I never will mistreat one," the speaker declared.

He listed as the greatest enemies of segregation, "our church organizations who gather at outside conventions and let them push it right down our throats. They hurt the cause most because they are right here among us," he said. "They get in the pulpit and say that to be a segregationist is not to be a good Christian."

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 6)

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BAUMGARDNER

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
June 8, 1957  
Front Page

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
WEST ALABAMA  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
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DATE 03-26-2008 BY 60322uc-lp/dog/ntw

## GORDO

(Continued from Page 1)

"If the dam ever breaks, the races will intermingle faster than many think. If they integrate the schools in the deep south, it is broken."

### Auburn Trustees Praised

"I love the University of Alabama," said Elmore. "I have been loyal to it and will continue to be so. But that doesn't keep me from criticizing them. This is an academic freedom of speech it is the freedom of speech in Pickens County," said he. "I congratulate and commend the trustees of Auburn for tamping out the thing to begin with by kicking out that professor. Heaven knows, I hope to see the same thing happen at the University to those who poison the minds of our young people."

"Which," he asked, "will destroy the United States quicker, Communism or a mongrelized race?"

"You can fight any man or thing face to face in the open," he declared. "But if he hides in the bushes he can shoot you in the back. If any minister is a conscientious segregationist, let him tell his congregation that and our forces will be greatly strengthened," he said.

Mr. Altman devoted most of his remarks to tracing the segregation question through the high courts, declaring that before the present court outlawed segregation as unconstitutional and illegal. There is nothing in the constitution that gives them the federal government right to regulate schools, he said.

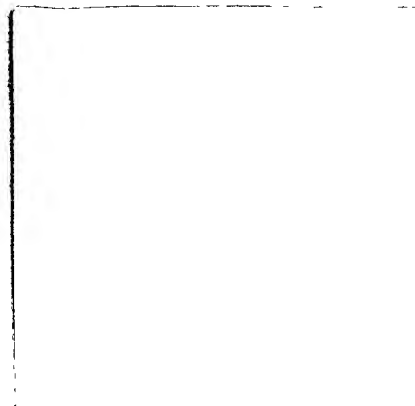
"We've got to use courage, patriotism, and intelligence," said Altman. "Our cities, our homes, our farms can be destroyed and we can build others to take their place. But when the blood of white Anglo Saxon is intermingled with Negroes, all hopes for our future dies," he asserted.

Two resolutions were offered and approved at the Council meeting. One was a request that the local delegation in the state legislature support senate bills already introduced which would reinstate the old poll tax laws.

The other called upon the management of local theatres to express the council's disapproval of a recently released movie "Island In The Sun." A committee was named to contact the movie managers and ask that this show not be offered in Tuscaloosa County.

Chairman Wilson announced that Eugene (Bull) Connor, recently elected as a member of the Birmingham City Commission will be invited to speak at the Council's July meeting when a watermelon cutting will also be held. He said Sen. Albert Davis of Pickens County will address the August meeting. No dates for either were announced.

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Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Boardman ✓  
Mr. Belmont ✓  
Mr. Mohr ✓  
Mr. Parsons ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Trotter ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Mr. Holloman ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

## EDITORIALS

# Segregation And Integration

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Today's editorial space is used to reproduce the full text of an address made Friday night by Publisher Buford Boone before the Citizens Council of West Alabama. In it are expressed opinions that also are the editorial opinions of this newspaper, and the speech is presented as today's editorial discussion on a question that continues to be a major problem in the nation.)

If you are surprised to see me here; let me assure you that your feeling is no different from mine. I know how a burglar felt who found himself on the end of a ladder short of an old maid's window. There was a bulldog on the ground. The poor man couldn't go on up, and he dared not climb down. To his utter amazement, between barks of the ferocious dog, he heard the old maid put in a call to the fire department. "Please send a ladder out here," the old maid said. "There's a man trying to get into my house."

The burglar didn't hear the fireman's protest: "You want the police department, lady," he said. "They handle burglar cases." "Wait a minute," said the old maid. "I know what I'm doing, and I want a longer ladder."

You have kindly provided the longer ladder so that I can discuss with you a difficult question to which there are no ideal, easy or pleasing-to-every-one answers. It is not the easiest speaking assignment I ever have accepted. But I believe the problem of segregation and integration is one that needs to be discussed rationally, fully and intelligently. I shall try to be rational, I shall go into the matter as fully as a limited amount of time allows. You may judge whether my remarks are intelligent, and if your chairman wishes to do so I shall be glad, after the conclusion of this prepared talk, to engage in a discussion and attempt to answer any clarifying questions you may have.

### ADVOCATE OF ORDER

I was, and am, pleased that you should have invited me here. I shall not be able to fill the advance billing of—and I quote—"an outspoken advocate of integration," for I believe, and have stated at every opportunity, that the problems to which we turn our attention this evening are most difficult. I know that quick answers are not possible if we are to avoid violence and if we are to maintain good will between the races. I come, rather, as an advocate of law and order. I shall try to suggest to you some of the things that I believe we shall have to do in the way of adjusting our thinking and our attitudes if we are to continue to stand for law, order and recognition of the courts as the proper places for the settlement of many questions, including those relating to civil rights.

Your organization has taken a position in support of lawful procedures. For it is my understanding, and I ask your correction if I am wrong, that it is the stated policy of this group to take no action outside of the law. I would not expect any other position from a group of neighbors among whom I am honored to live, move and work.

There is a lot I don't know. But I did learn some things on the Georgia farm where I grew up. I've tried on plow handles, and they did fit in my hands. On our hundred-acre farm we had a family of Negro tenant farmers. I worked, played, hunted, swam and sometimes fought with the Negro children on our place. Their parents, friends of mine for many years, still live over in our neighboring state. I went to see them recently, and the gray-haired grandmother in whose kitchen I had eaten more than one meal made me proud when she said: "Mr. Buford, you is still my boy."

### TOO MANY LABELS

I believe I pretty well understand the southern attitudes toward the difficult situation in which we find ourselves. There are, of course, varying opinions, and we cannot talk correctly in terms of what the white man or the colored man thinks.

In fact, it seems to me that our problems are complicated by the ease with which we apply labels and the facility with which we speak of large groups of people as if they were only one individual. All whites are not honorable, upright and fair. All Negroes are not dirty, ignorant, shiftless and lazy. In fact, one of the very greatest things about our country is the privilege of any person to be judged on the basis of what he stands for and what he can amount to.

You may not be as sensitive to this label business as I am. I've been called a "nigger-lover", a Communist, the hired servant of owners of the Tuscaloosa newspaper property who have been incorrectly described as Negroes. And I've even been called a Yankee. There have been other names to which I shall not refer. If any of you here tonight have used such terms in reference to me, I forgive you in the assumption that you must have thought you were right, even though I knew you were wrong.

Let's take a look at the local newspaper situation. The News is published by Tuscaloosa Newspapers, Inc., a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Alabama and chartered right here in Tuscaloosa County. All stock in the corporation is owned by myself, members of my family living here, and one other person who works at The News and is our business manager. All directors and officers of the corporation live here in your midst. We, and we alone, are responsible for setting policies aimed at giving you a decent, honest and fair newspaper.

THE TUSCALOOSA NEWS  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
January 6, 1957  
Editorial  
BUFORD BOONE - Editor

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF  
WEST ALABAMA  
TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA  
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#### NO EASY JOB

Publishing a newspaper is not an easy job. Some folks think it should be possible to print the good news and leave out the bad. Some others, reading of developments to which they object, resent the use of news, stories or pictures to acquaint readers with those events. But in publishing the news part of the paper, we try not to be protective or selective, but to give adequate coverage on all events and developments that might be of interest to our readers. We have been criticized for publishing too much and damned for printing too little. We have been asked to leave things out of the paper and to play up other things. But we have tried consistently, and we shall keep on trying, to print the news impartially, to display it as we newsmen think it should be displayed without consideration for our own attitudes toward the content. We try to do this news end of our job as impersonally and as impartially as a surgeon performing an operation.

On the editorial page comment is printed. We believe in free American citizens having, and expressing, views on important questions such as this one before us tonight. We have, and we always will have, ample space in our newspaper for any person to express himself on matters of current public interest whether we agree with what he has to say or not.

We have had a lot of news, and we have given our views freely in the editorial columns, on developments of a racial nature in Tuscaloosa and the South in recent months. I believe you will agree that you have been kept well informed by our news coverage. If you have disagreed with our editorial viewpoint in any way, let me assure you that your right to disagree is unquestioned.

While the newspaper operating company to which I have referred publishes The News, the property itself is rented from another

corporation which owns it. This is the same kind of arrangement that exists between the owners of some downtown stores and the occupants of the buildings. The newspaper property is owned by Public Welfare Foundation, a corporation organized for charity purposes in which there is no stock. Its headquarters is in Washington, Virginia. Its trustees, making up what corresponds to a board of directors, and all of its officers are white people.

#### HAVE TWO CAMPS

In looking at the difficulties that have developed since the decision of the Supreme Court in May, 1954, it seems to me that much of our trouble has come from fear, from lack of understanding and from failure of communication between whites and Negroes on basic issues. Consequently, we have two camps, with each largely keeping its own counsel, making its own decisions, and reaching its own conclusions on situations vitally affecting the other. Such a situation makes for difficulty, because it promotes the mistaken idea that we have two prob-

lems, one for whites and one for Negroes, when actually we have a problem that affects and concerns us all. And, if it is to be worked out with any degree of sanity, both elements are going to have to do a lot of working together.

Many people realize these things. They know, too, that this is not a Southern problem or a Northern problem. We have, instead, a problem of national proportions requiring the understanding, the sympathetic attention and the tolerance and patience of many millions of people living and acting like free Americans should.

We have had some truly wild moments. There have been perfectly serious suggestions that all Negroes should be sent to Africa. Where did your ancestors come from? Personally, I do not care to be sent to Wales, England or Scotland, from which I understand mine came.

And our state Senate, during the height of the racial problem hysteria that gripped Alabama, formally suggested that the federal government should enter into an agreement to deport Alabama Negroes to some other part of the country. Remember, these suggestions have been made about people who legally are free American citizens, entitled under the law to all privileges, liberties and protections you and I expect from our governments.

Some have talked seriously of fighting another Civil War over the issue. Fortunately, I believe, such a rabid element is limited in number. But no less a personage than the governor of Georgia was quoted as suggesting the possibility of such a development in a public address in New Orleans last May.

#### HAD GOOD LUCK

We had some instances here of Negro women being grabbed, shaken and told by strange white men to get off the streets. So far as I know, such cases were few. But some did occur. Some servants became afraid to go home alone. Delivery boys sometimes became afraid to make deliveries.

Fortunately, we came through our most difficult period with no lives lost and little blood spilled. But we had a lot of ammunition sold. A lot of people were ready for a great deal of trouble. We could have had it in abundance the day that Autherine Lucy was taken from the campus and was given refuge in a Negro business establishment.

I did not know it at the time, but I learned several days afterwards that some Negro citizens of Tuscaloosa, fearful that law and order had broken down, armed themselves and surrounded the business place. I also was informed that a carload of mobsters from the University area found the girl's whereabouts and that one of the number went into a place of business operated by a white man and asked to use the telephone to summon reinforcements. Further, I have been told that the white man, upon learning the nature of the call, said that his phone could not be used for such purposes. His refusal might have saved a number of lives here last February 6.

We got by then. But what about the next time? Court orders applying to all Negroes give those who are qualified to enter the University of Alabama the right to do so. Your organization has taken a stand against activity outside the law. What are you going to do when the next Negro student appears on the University campus under the protection of our courts and with the right to expect assistance from law enforcement officers, if needed?

Right now, tonight, you can put off the answer to that question. But sooner or later, and I have no idea how soon or how late it will be, another Negro student will appear on the University campus. Under such circumstances are whites again going to attempt to take the law into their own hands? And if so will you will be a party to such mob action either in person or in moral support?

It's easy to blame our troubles on things that are far away. We can criticize the Supreme Court and mentally and orally horse-whip the NAACP. They are convenient targets. But our problem is not the Supreme Court. Nor is it the NAACP. Our problem is with ourselves, and what we are going to do as responsible American citizens to recognize, or deny, privileges which our courts have said are the proper rights of Negroes.

#### DECISION WAS RIGHT

I believe the Supreme Court decision had to come and that it was morally right. Nothing in it is inconsistent with my conception of democracy, even though a background of southern living, southern custom and southern tradition tells me it will be strange to see colored faces at the University of Alabama. But I believe we should prepare ourselves to accept this development, since it has been ordered as rightful and just by our courts.

We are on the front line of democracy. We are being tested as a people, as a community and as a state, and we alone can give the answer on whether we can and will make the compromises and adjustments that will be unnatural, difficult and hard. But make them we must, if we are to stay within the law. If we go outside the law, we deliberately place ourselves in the wrong. Then we become outlaws.

This whole situation, boiled down to a point that every man, woman and child can understand, can be likened to a declaration to the whole world by a community in our midst that it always has made beetles, which, key, doesn't want to quit, is not going to quit.

This United States is one country. We in the South are outnumbered. We don't like what the Supreme Court has said. But we have been telling the rest of the country to go to hell and we can't do that and get away with it.

They're going to do like you and I would do if one of our communities told us it meant to violate the law as much as it pleased. We'd control them lawfully. So will the rest of this country use the full force of the law on us if we drive them to it.

#### NO EASY CHOICES

The choices are not easy. But circumstances have made them necessary in Clinton, Tennessee, and in Montgomery, Ala-

bama. We were on the same spot here briefly last February, and with the court decisions standing as they do we could find ourselves back there almost any time.

I anticipate that all other possible legal steps will be taken to evade and avoid compliance. But I cannot see any reasonable possibility of such moves being successful at doing more than delaying the inevitable.

If this is a correct appraisal, and I believe it is, what are the practical and sensible approaches? First, I suggest that we must accept the Supreme Court's decision in principle and make some moves toward compliance.

Some plan based upon admission of qualified Negro students to graduate and professional schools offering courses not now available in Negro institutions seems to me to offer the best possibility. If, in return for this concession, Negro students could refrain from making other applications to white schools for a period of trial and adjustment, that would contribute to a gradual solution. But we are going to have to make some concessions, whether they be gradual or sudden.

In the public school area, the problem is far more complicated and difficult. I cannot see how integration can possibly be accomplished on any major scale in Alabama anytime soon. Pressure for that development should not be exerted. And if it is done our public school system will be abandoned and possibly wrecked.

School integration has been tried in Washington, D. C. Problems have been many and difficult and I believe the experience there will have a helpful effect in slowing the demand for quick and complete public school integration in the Southeast. But there is no turning back, for the school board in Washington has voted to continue integration regardless of the results.

If a compromise solution is to be accepted at least temporarily, however, the white people of Alabama must continue to push harder for elimination of great differences which have existed in the educational opportunities offered whites and Negroes. Much has been done in the Tuscaloosa area to bring equality of facilities, but in some other sections little has been accomplished toward this end.

#### PATIENCE NEEDED

If we are to work out of this difficult situation, sacrifices, patience and tolerance will be required from whites and Negroes. For whites, the contribution must be in a willingness to give up some of our traditions

and customs so as to share more equally the blessings of education.

For the Negro, the contribution must be acceptance of less speed than could be demanded legally in implementation of newly established rights. Meanwhile, time and attention can be directed by our Negro groups and institutions toward a greater understanding of the responsibilities of first-class citizenship. For there is much responsibility along with privilege.

The reward for such charity and forbearance will be overall betterment of all our peoples. Bitter determination on one hand to give nothing, and on the other to push for everything at once would bring much trouble that I hope can be avoided.

I have no quarrel with you as a Citizens Council for making any legal and ethical fight you might choose to make to preserve a system which you honestly think is just and right. That is your unquestioned privilege in a democracy—the finest system of government yet devised. But if others are refused the same privilege—in fact, if we do not support the right of others to do the same thing—I believe a great mistake will have been made.

Extreme attitudes hold no promise for peaceful extension of the blessings of democracy. I believe that if we really stand for liberty and justice, it must be for all. And I believe that if all of us will combine these great principles with the teachings of our religions, we shall find the correct answers. That is what we must seek—the way that is fair, the way that is just, and the way that is right.

Thank you for all the help you can give in trying to find, and to follow, that way.



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Citizens Council of West Ala.*

# Gov. Faubus To Speak At Tuscaloosa

Will Discuss  
States' Rights At  
June 12 Meeting

Special to The Post-Herald  
TUSCALOOSA, April 28 — Gov.  
Orval Faubus of Arkansas is  
scheduled to be here June 12 for  
a public talk on states' rights and  
constitutional government, and an  
officer of the Citizens Council said  
an effort is being made to obtain  
a site "that will handle at least  
15,000 people."

The Citizens Council of Tus-  
caloosa and other groups invited  
the controversial Arkansas gov-  
ernor to appear here.

James H. Lasseter, Tuscaloosa  
accountant and officer of the  
Citizens Council, said, "This will  
be the biggest meeting to come to  
this part of the country in quite  
a while. We expect people from  
all over."

He said he wrote Faubus today  
asking if arrangements should be  
made for a press conference.

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD  
Birmingham, Alabama  
April 29, 1959  
Final Edition

CITIZENS COUNCIL OF WEST  
ALABAMA,  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
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BUFILE 105-46001

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